The Middlebury Campus

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Snowden Talks Surveillance and Security in U.S.

By Elizabeth Sawyer
Staff Writer

Just weeks after protesters prevented Dr. Charles Murray from delivering a lecture in Wilson Hall, Edward Snowden, the whistleblower and former National Security Agency (NSA) intelligence officer who leaked classified information in an effort to expose widespread government surveillance, spoke over videoconference to Middlebury community members on March 16 as the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) Spring Speaker.

Snowden fled the United States in May 2013, and was later charged by the U.S. government with espionage and theft of government property. He currently resides at an undisclosed location in Russia, where he received renewed asylum in January 2017 for an additional three years.

Russell Leng '60 Professor of International Politics and Economics Allison Stanger introduced Snowden and moderated the event. Stanger began by describing the effect Snowden has had on her upcoming book, "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Leaks: The Story of Whistleblowing in America," which was near completion when Snowden's story broke.

"He forced me, more or less, back to square one," she said, "but it will be a better book, I hope, for the extra effort."

In his own opening remarks, Snowden said that the problem at hand involves more than the NSA's activity. "The problem is that this has become easy for anyone with a certain amount of resources," he said. While government surveillance programs were once costly and cumbersome, Snowden shared that contemporary programs have grown far more efficient. "One guy can track, with precision, an unimaginably large number of people. And that was me," he said, referring to his work at the NSA.

Snowden criticized the government for participating in surveillance programs that "are not only unlawful, but have always been unconstitutional." Moreover, he argued that the government misrepresents its justification for the very existence of the programs. "These programs do not and have not saved lives... These programs were never about terrorism," he said. "[Surveillance] is useful for disrupting social movements, in being able to discredit people whose politics we disagree with... [These programs] are about economic espionage, diplomatic manipulation, and social control."

Lamenting a lack of effective mechanisms for constitutional oversight, Snowden cited the press and a vigilant public as vehicles that could bring about greater government transparency. "My argument is that we are at this point forced to rely on our press... If we only knew what governments or corporations wanted us to know, we wouldn't know much at all." He continued, "If we didn't have investigative journalism, we wouldn't be talking about [this]."

Throughout his talk, Snowden articulated a message of empowerment, imploring the audience to remember that "Saying something matters...the reality is one voice can change the world." He

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OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

For MCAB's Spring Speaker event, former NSA contractor Edward Snowden spoke via videoconference at McCullough's Wilson Hall on March 16. Professor Allison Stanger moderated the conversation.

Faculty Plenary Session Discusses Student Economic Inequality and Policy Changes

By Elaine Velie
News Editor

Faculty members discussed the motion on student economic inequality at the faculty plenary session on March 17. The group also discussed changes to non-standard grading in degree requirements, changes to the Academic Honesty Policy and changes in titles of special appointment faculty.

Before the meeting, 23 faculty members signed the Faculty Motion on Student Economic Inequality in light of the recent *New York Times* article that showed considerable economic inequality among Middlebury students. The article revealed Middlebury as the U.S. college with the ninth largest gap between students from families whose earnings put them in the top one percent of Americans and students from families whose earnings put them in the bottom 60 percent of Americans. The motion begins, "We, the Middlebury College faculty, believe the economic inequality of our student body as reported recently in the *New York Times* runs counter to our mission of educating a diverse student body, and does not reflect our policy of admitting the most qualified students regardless of financial need."

Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles pointed out that the college cannot see the wealth of non-financial aid students. He said, "We cannot necessarily discern among the non-financial aid students what their relative wealths are."

President Laurie Patton expressed her appreciation of the faculty motion and its importance. "I want to say thank you, this is received with real happiness," she said. "This has got to be our number one priority," she continued. "I'm delighted about this, I'm really excited about the conversation and welcome the collaboration."

Patton also shared the College's goal for percentage of students on financial aid. "I would like to create a goal of maybe fifty-five percent of students on financial aid. It would take $275 million to get to fifty-five percent."

Chief Diversity Officer Miguel Fernández spoke to the value of economic diversity at Middlebury. "It's not just about bringing people here so that we can feel good about ourselves, it means a real commitment, a serious commitment, that understands the value and the need for diversity, that it makes us all better and that we all benefit, and we need the students to recognize that, too," he said.

Jason Mittel, professor of Film and Media Culture and American Studies, proposed a change to non-standard grading in degree requirements. The measure was passed unanimously. The change prevents courses declared pass/fail by professors from counting toward students' limit of non-standard grading courses.

The faculty decided to table the proposed change to the Academic Honesty Policy until the

SEE FACULTY, PAGE 2

MCAB SPRING 2017 CONCERT: LIL UZI VERT

LIL UZI VERT'S YOUTUBE

Philadelphia rapper Lil Uzi Vert will perfrom at the MCAB Spring Concert on Saturday, April 8 at 9 p.m.

FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA GIVES LECTURE

By Catherine Pollack
Senior Writer

Robert Ford, senior fellow at the Middle East Institute and former U.S. ambassador to Syria, delivered a lecture titled "Human Rights and U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East: Can we Find the Right Balance?" at the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs on March 20. Ford discussed the foreign policy approach taken by former President Barack Obama and the predicted approach of President Donald Trump's administration.

Ford's lecture was the first of the new Middlebury College Dialogue on the Middle East lecture series. Supported by Eliot Levinson '64 and his family, the series aims to deepen our community understanding of issues in the Middle East and to stimulate curiosity in contemporary debate and dialogue. The Aronson Foundation and the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs sponsored the talk.

Ford served as ambassador to Syria from 2011 to 2014 and is the last person to have served in the position. Ford resigned from the Foreign Service in 2014 due to his

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SHARE TO WEAR WINS SECOND PLACE IN COMPETITION

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Former Ambassador Focuses on Middle East

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frustration with the Obama administration for not providing more support to Syria. In spite of accusations from the Syrian government that he was interfering, Ford continued his diplomatic efforts outside of the Foreign Service.

For his work, Ford received the Profile in Courage Award from the John F. Kennedy Library and the Presidential Honor Award in 2012. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the State Department in 2014.

Before his work in Syria, Ford served as the Deputy Chief of Mission in Bahrain from 2001 to 2004, U.S. Ambassador to Algeria from 2006 to 2008 and Deputy U.S. Ambassador to Iraq from 2008-2010. He is currently a Senior Fellow at the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C.

> ***"If we fail to raise human rights issues entirely, it signals to the world that we don't care."***
>
> **ROBERT FORD**
> FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA

Before beginning his talk, Ford qualified his comparison of the Obama and Trump administrations' approaches to human rights issues in the Middle East, noting that much of his analysis of the Trump approach is based on statements made during his campaign and initial steps taken in his first two months in office. Since Trump still needs to make major political appointments, it largely remains to be seen how his approach will take shape.

During the campaign, Trump said, "If I become president, the era of nation building will come to a very swift end" and clearly stated, "No more trying to export democracy."

Ford also discussed Trump's campaign promise to increase military aggression. Under the Obama administration, staffers of the National Security Council were required to clear civilians from bomb targets before making any hits. Trump promised to relieve the civilians in the National Security Council of this duty and to give the reigns to the more aggressive war fighters. On March 16, an attack on a mosque in Jinah, Syria that killed over four dozen civilians demonstrated the increase in casualties inherent to Trump's new approach.

Ford shared his initial concern with Trump's approach, noting, "If we fail to raise human rights issues entirely, it signals to the world that we don't care."

Ford discussed another step that the Trump administration has taken in the past two months to explicate their foreign policy approach. In early March, the State Department presents their annual Human Rights Report. This March, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was in the building but chose not to attend the presentation. In the history of the Report, only two Secretaries of State have been absent for the presentation, and only because they were travelling.

In Egypt, the Egyptian government has restricted the ability of human rights activists to travel and routinely arrests and jails them. According to Ford, the Egyptian president was one of the first to congratulate President Trump on his election.

In Bahrain, human rights activists have been treated in a similar manner, especially those concerned with the rights and discrimination of the Shia. Ford noted that the government of Bahrain was also pleased with President Trump's election.

Ford believes that the U.S. needs to find a balance between turning away from human rights violations, which Trump has proposed doing, and putting unproductive pressure on nations to make extreme changes. Ford described this as the, "challenge of finding the right balance."

Ford believes that it is essential that Americans find this balance. He stated that instead of publicly criticizing nations for their violations of human rights, it is more productive for Americans to start discussions behind closed doors. Ford argued that no government would implement changes that seem to be coming from pressure from other nations and risk looking weak. Ford argued that this balance also needs to be found in coordination with other countries. Instead of slipping into our "America First" mentality, it is more productive to work together with other nations.

Ford shared his own experience in Algeria in the mid-1990s, when he witnessed the explosion of violence that came from efforts to implement a democracy virtually overnight. In this experience, he saw the importance of finding the balance he spoke about. Democracies cannot be created overnight and Americans should not be looking to create democracies in our image but instead Americans should look for the middle ground, by supporting the implementation of small changes and compromises behind the scenes.

Ford claimed that the Trump administration seems to believe that fighting the Islamic State in the Middle East is purely militaristic. This approach ignores the political and economic aspects of the complex issues in the Middle East. Ford provided the example of a survey of young Arabs about why people choose to join the Islamic state. The primary driver in this survey was lack of jobs.

Ford argued that an approach that myopically views the issues in Middle East as militaristic and tries to address these issues with solely a militaristic approach, will miss many of the issues at stake.

Ford concluded by emphasizing the importance of this balance. He said, "If we ignore human rights, I fear that we will be a 'Middle East in forever war' scenario."

FACULTY DISCUSS MOTION ON ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

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April meeting. The change alters language in order to clarify prohibited activities and make explicit professors' right to prohibit behavior. "Our overall goals were to strengthen and provide additional clarity to definitions of prohibited behaviors such as plagiarism," said Karen Guttentag, associate dean for judicial affairs and student life. Examples given were the lack of explicit prohibition of cheating on homework and the use of fabricated data.

The proposed change also gives faculty members the ability to prohibit certain activities. "We also wanted to be explicit in saying that faculty members have the right to define in their classes, as a department, or on a particular assignment, that certain activities or use of resources could be considered an academic honesty violation, even if it doesn't fall into any of those categories, if they did so in advance."

The Faculty Council presented a proposal to Handbook language regarding special appointment faculty positions. The proposed changes seek to maintain consistency of titles across departments, create consistency in expectations of advancement, and alter review and tenure procedures. There will be an information session about the proposed changes with the date to be announced.

A committee discussion was proposed and held about the value of freedom of speech at Middlebury.

STANGER MODERATES MCAB SPEAKER SNOWDEN'S TALK

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warned against the notion that freedom of privacy is not important if one has nothing to hide, arguing that "Privacy is the foundation of all other rights... if we lose that, we're losing more than a right; we're losing ourselves."

Snowden also stressed the importance of recognizing the relationship between rights and privilege. "Rights don't mean much to the powerful and the privileged," he said. "Rights matter to those who are different, to those who stand out... If you say surveillance is okay as long as its not monitoring me, this is selfish and short sighted."

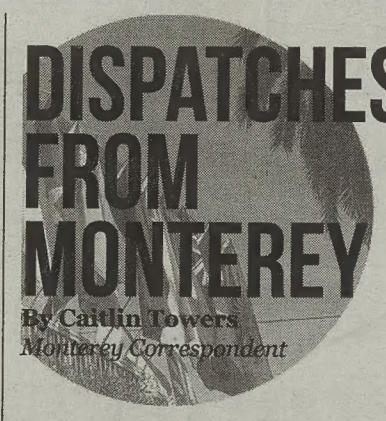
> ***"Privacy is the foundation of all other rights... if we lose that, we're losing more than a right; we're losing ourselves."***
>
> **EDWARD SNOWDEN**
> FORMER NSA CONTRACTOR

Snowden was careful to explain that he never personally published any documents in his 2013 reveal. Rather, he gave the information to professional journalists, and requested that they contact the U.S. government in advance of publication to ensure that each leak would not put anyone in danger. To Snowden's knowledge, that process was followed in every case, and "they have never shown any evidence that anyone has come to harm as a result of these disclosures." Instead, his actions "changed our laws, changed the thinking of the president, [and] won the Pulitzer Prize for public service. I believe that we live in a freer and fairer world because of it," he said.

Emma Dunlap '18 and Jocelyn Zemach '18, co-chairs of the MCAB Speakers Committee, worked with an agent to secure Snowden as Spring Speaker. "We generally use an agent for our larger speakers," Dunlap wrote in an email. "Our committee unanimously decided to 'bring' Edward Snowden to Middlebury believing that he would start an interesting conversation on campus, especially given the current political climate in America, U.S.-Russian relations, and cyber security concerns in general."

According to Dunlap, "The event reached over 500 viewers on the live stream. I've received positive feedback from many attendees and I hope that the Middlebury community continues to discuss the ideas and opinions that Snowden brought."

Rebecca Simon '19 had a somewhat different opinion after leaving Wilson Hall, questioning whether Snowden came to Middlebury to push an agenda rather than engage in a discussion. "Though most of what he had to say was rather inspiring for young people to hear, it all seemed like an elaborate plan or a previously constructed lecture on why his position was correct," she said. "I am so happy I waited 90 minutes in the cold to see him interact with Professor Stanger and students...I just thought that the discussion was going to be a discussion and not a lecture."



By Caitlin Towers
Monterey Correspondent

The Middlebury Institute in Monterey celebrated its connection with the Peace Corps during the week of February 26 through March 4. The Middlebury Institute in Monterey is home to no fewer than 80 past, present and future Peace Corps volunteers. Alongside the 33 returned Peace Corps volunteers who are currently students, 18 faculty and staff members are returned volunteers as well.

MIIS connects many students to the Peace Corps through the Masters International Program, in which students complete one year of study and then depart for their Peace Corps posts where they spend 27 months. After completing their service, students return to campus to finish their degree. There are currently 29 students enrolled in this Peace Corps Masters International Program at MIIS. This semester's weeklong Peace Corps celebration featured events and discussions for both current and prospective students.

On March 3, employers from around the world attended the annual Middlebury Institute Translation and Interpretation and Localization Management Career Fair. Students arrived at the fair in business attire with resumes and business cards in hand. Employers ranged from Netflix to the U.S. State Department, and over 150 students were given the chance to speak with potential employers. A number of the recruiters at the career fair were Middlebury Institute Alumni.

Middlebury Institute translation professor Joe McClinton has been part of a recent project to translate and revive long-lost Italian operas. The operas were found in the archives of Venice's Biblioteca Marciana by Céline Ricci, the founder and director of Ars Minera, an opera company in San Francisco. McClinton was contacted by Ricci after the discovery and has been helping to bring these operas back to the stage. His involvement in the revival of these operas ranged from literary translation to sitting in at rehearsals to ensure that the original meaning of the text was being preserved. Over the past two years, McClinton has successfully helped bring two of these operas to stage at the Ars Minerva in San Francisco. He is currently working on a third, La Circe. It had been almost 350 years since these operas were last performed.

This spring, a number of International Policy and Development (IPD) and Masters in Public Administration (MPA) students at the Institute have rather nontraditional course schedules. They are participating in Sprintensive, a new block-system semester that MIIS is offering this spring for the second year in a row. Every student takes four classes over the course of the semester, each of which lasts for three weeks. Classes meet five days a week for four hours, and students then have a week-long break between each class in which to finish up projects and rest. All students enrolled in Sprintensive take Development Economics in their first block and Program Evaluation in their last; students have multiple options to choose from for their middle two blocks. However, not all students in the IPD and MPA programs were required to participate; the block-system merely afforded students an additional option.

Three students from MIIS participated in the Hult Prize competition earlier this month. The competition centers around social issues and each year has a different theme. This year, students from both undergraduate and graduate programs presented ideas for social enterprises that would restore the rights and dignity of refugees in a competition entitled "Reawakening Human Potential." Students apply to participate in the program in groups of three or four and have two months to pull together and frame their idea. Five regional competitions take place each year in San Francisco, Boston, London, Dubai and Shanghai. The group of MIIS students were chosen to participate from tens of thousands of applicants and attended the regional final in San Francisco with 66 other teams.

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I.C.E. Agents Arrest and Detain Three Migrant Justice Organizers in Burlington

Alessandria Schumacher
Local News Editor

Last week, three prominent immigrants' rights activists associated with Migrant Justice in Burlington were arrested and detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. Zully Palacios Rodriguez, 23, and Jose Enrique "Kike" Balcazar Sanchez, 24, were arrested Friday, March 17. Cesar Alexis Carrillo Sanchez, 23, known as Alex, was arrested Wednesday.

Soon after leaving the Migrant Justice office in Burlington on Friday afternoon, the vehicle in which Palacios and Balcazar were driving was surrounded by four undercover ICE vehicles, according to a press release from Migrant Justice. Other organizers from Migrant Justice arrived on the scene in time to see Palacios and Balcazar loaded into separate vans and driven away. They were initially taken to separate detention facilities, but have now both been moved to the Stafford County detention center in Dover, NH as of Tuesday.

Carrillo was arrested Wednesday while with his wife, Lymarie Deida, a U.S. citizen, and en route to the Chittenden County courthouse for a hearing regarding a 2016 DUI arrest. According to court documents, the state dismissed the criminal charges as they had intended, despite Carrillo's absence. Carillo has been taken to the Stafford County detention center as well, leaving behind his wife and their four-year-old daughter.

Now detained in Dover, all three individuals face uncertain futures. They will go to court in the near future and may be deported or released.

Austin Kahn '17.5, who is a member of Juntos and involved with Migrant Justice in Burlington, commented on the possibility of deportation.

"Is it inevitable their deportation? Absolutely not. With Victor Diaz [detained last spring] and with Miguel Alcudia in the fall, there was huge public pressure, lots of people making phone calls and writing letters to representatives and to the ICE field office in Boston. As a result of all this pressure, they were both released and not deported," Kahn said, referring to recent cases of detention of immigrants' rights activists and the role of activists in preventing deportation.

Balcazar "is a spokesperson for Migrant Justice and a recognized human rights leader. He came to Vermont from Mexico when he was 17, joining his parents to work in the state's storied dairy industry," Migrant Justice stated in a press release. He has been involved in the successful campaign for legislation allowing immigrant workers in Vermont to get driver's licenses. He has also been instrumental in the "Milk with Dignity" campaign.

The press release described that Palacios "is an active leader with Migrant Justice. After coming to Vermont from Peru, she became involved with Migrant Justice in 2016, aiding in a successful campaign to free then detained Migrant Justice leader, Victor Diaz." In addition, she has helped to organize women's groups through Migrant Justice. Her political activity also extends to involvement with the national movement for immigrants' rights, food justice, the Food Chain Workers Alliance and the Cosecha Movement.

> ***"I, personally, would affirm that [those who were arrested] are political prisoners ... All the evidence on the table points to the fact that they are being retaliated against for their political activity, particularly Zully and Kike with thier amount of visibility."***
>
> AUSTIN KAHN
> STUDENT, 2017.5

In a rapid response to Friday's arrests, Migrant Justice organized a rally in Burlington at noon on Saturday to denounce the arrests and show solidarity. At the event, people held signs and repeated chants in both English and Spanish while making their way down Church Street. Organizers from Migrant Justice, as well as Black Lives Matter Vermont, spoke at Saturday's protest.

MIGRANT JUSTICE

Marita Caneda, an organizer with Migrant Justice, speaks at Satrurday's rally in Burlington to denounce and protest the arrests of Balcazar, Palacios and Carrillo.

According to Kyler Blodgett '17 who attended the event, the speakers often asked attendees to pull out their phones and sign various petitions. Enough people logged on to sign, causing the websites to crash at certain points during the protest. Blodgett estimated that there were about 250 to 300 people at the rally, including about 10 Middlebury College students.

"Non-participants were mostly supportive, a lot of honking car horns and cheering enthusiastically as we walked through the streets," Blodgett said. He saw no significant counter protest or detractors.

"Everyone who has been involved with Juntos and the Compañeros program or has collaborated with Migrant Justice ... knows Kike [Balcazar Sanchez] and that's part of why Migrant Justice and allies were able to galvanize so much support on Saturday," Kahn said of the good turn-out.

Similar marches were held to show solidarity on Tuesday in Montpelier and Brattleboro.

The implications of these three arrests, as well as the two notable arrests of Migrant Justice organizers in 2016, are concerning to many people. Kahn explained to *The Campus* how these arrests were politically motivated.

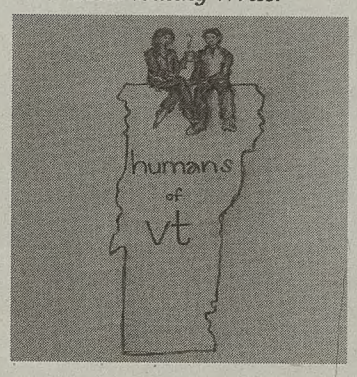
"Immigration and Customs Enforcement has laid out — and this is true during the Obama administration and the Trump administration as well — that there are priorities, and people are assigned a level of urgency with which we need to kick them out of the country, so for example, people who have committed violent crimes get a higher priority," Kahn said. "However, Kike [Balcazar Sanchez] and Zully [Rodriguez] have nothing on their records, but they're incredibly visible organizers: their faces are on Facebook, they're at every event related to Migrant Justice, Kike is on a state task for criminal justice reform."

The arrest of undocumented immigrants who have no criminal record, but have been politically active has been a continuing trend over the past year. There is fear that people will continue to be targeted for political activity within the context of organizing for undocumented workers' rights, as well as other political contexts.

"I, personally, would affirm that [those who were arrested] are political prisoners," Kahn continued. "All the evidence on the table points to the fact that they are being retaliated against for their political activity, particularly Zully and Kike with their amount of visibility."

Humans of Vt.: Inside Middlebury Chocolates

Ellie Greenberg
Contributing Writer



Down Frog Hollow Alley, overlooking an icy waterfall sits a cozy spot for visitors to relax and chat while sipping on the rumored best hot chocolate in town: Middlebury Chocolates. Founded in 2010, the store makes small artisan chocolates directly from the cocoa bean. It is not only the delicious rich flavors that make Middlebury Chocolates a unique spot, but also the people standing behind the counter.

Joshua Borisuk, one employee at the chocolate shop, stands tall next to the cash register, his dark curly hair contrasting with his fair skin. Born in South Carolina and raised as the eldest of 10 in upstate New York, Josh now calls the town of Middlebury his home. Josh was visiting his uncle, the owner of Middlebury Chocolates, when he decided to stay in Vermont.

"I just felt really good about the area here," Josh said, reflecting on his decision to move North. "I was visiting short-term when I met a lot of cool people. I decided to stay put and work here."

Josh was raised and homeschooled in a household with a strong focus on religion. With two younger brothers currently studying at a bible school in South Carolina, Josh says he believes the rest of his siblings will follow their path.

"The people I grew up around are on one side of the aisle," Josh said. "And once I externalized myself from my upbringing, I was able to see a lot more clearly. I realized that here is a much better place for me to be."

During my conversation with Josh, another Middlebury Chocolates employee pulls up a chair and jokes, "So when is it my turn to be interviewed?" He tells me his name is Stefan Eisler.

Unlike Josh, Stefan is a native Vermonter. Born in Burlington, Stefan now resides in Middlebury working at the chocolate shop. A typical day for Stefan consists of work, exercise, feeding his cats ("real food so it actually takes some time to prepare and feed them") and recording songs on his guitar.

"You have to stay busy, living in Vermont. I have certain ways to switch it up," Stefan said.

Stefan told me that he felt he was living life on "autopilot" until he was 17 — but now he lives his life aware of every moment and decision.

When I asked if he changed anything about the way that he lives now versus before this realization, Stefan responded with one word: "everything."

I pressed for an explanation. Stefan smiled, adjusted his beanie and began, "There are a lot of people who do what they think other people want them to do," Stefan told me. "People are definitely not as weird as they should be ... probably because they are trying to maintain some form of rigidity in their life so that they don't come out of their box."

ELLIE GREENBERG

Joshua Borisuk and Stefan Eisler

Stefan looked at me and laughed, "But the box isn't much fun!"

Fortnightly Feature: Backcountry Skiing Brandon Gap

By Morgan Perlman
Contributing Writer

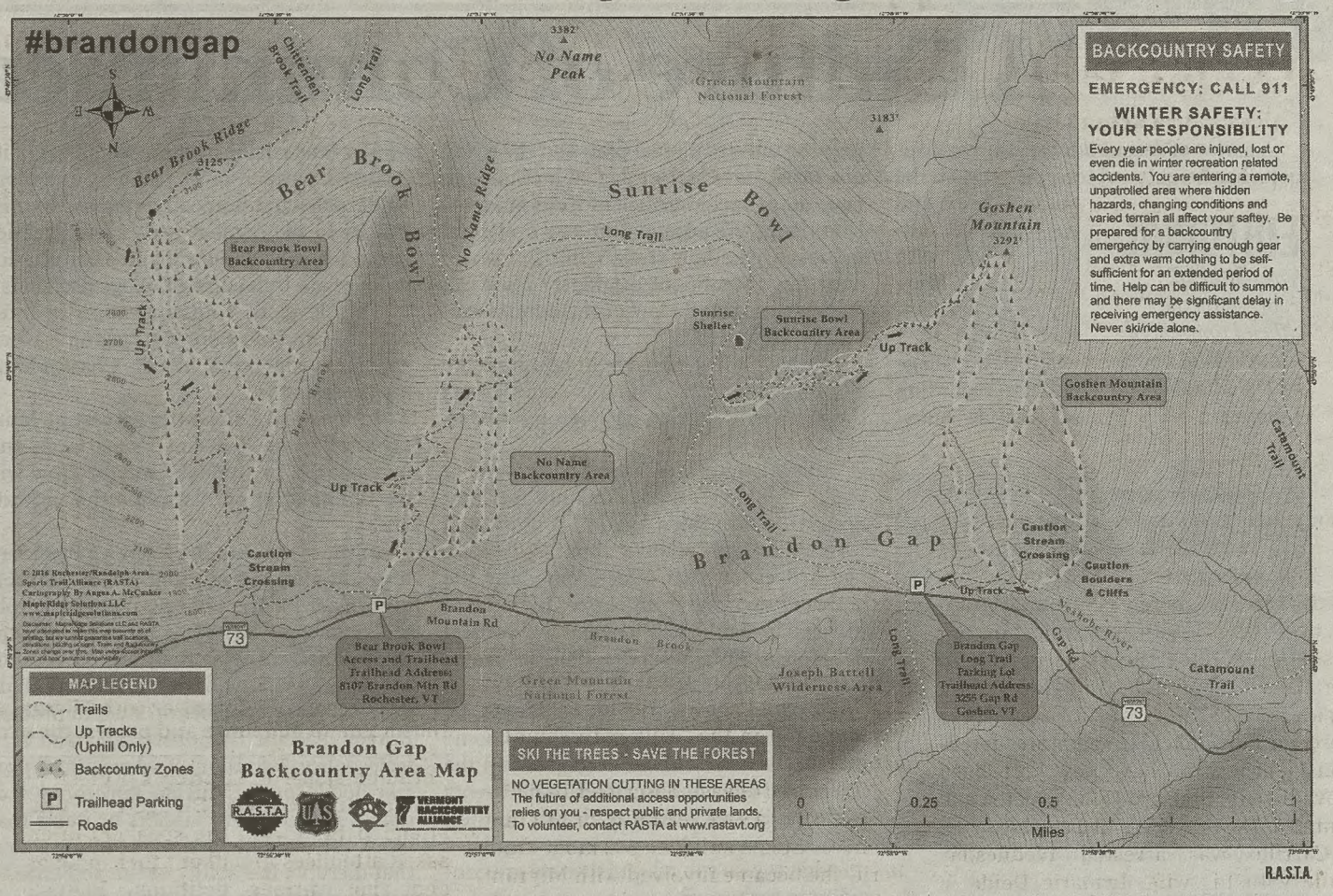
After the historic blizzard of 2017 last week, the local backcountry skiing was revived with some incredible powder. Before this great ski season comes to a close, I figured it was time to write about Vermont's backcountry skiing and the nearby Brandon Gap Backcountry Recreation Area.

There has never been a better time to be a skier in Vermont and to go to Middlebury than now, given Vermont's incredible renaissance of backcountry skiing. Vermont's open hardwood glades, undeveloped forested mountainsides with steep pitches and easy road access make the state a mecca for eastern woods skiing. In the past decade, there has been a growing interest in Vermont to ditch the ski resorts and ski lifts for a more primitive wilderness experience of skiing in the woods. The backcountry offers opportunities for untouched powder and solitude, which are rare to find at commercial ski areas

In place of motorized lifts to haul people up mountains, skiers have turned to using skins on the bottom of telemark or AT (Alpine Touring) skis, where the heel lifts like a cross-country ski, allowing for uphill travel. The increased interest in the backcountry skiing has also benefited from the recent development of advanced AT technology — ultra-light tech bindings, carbon skis and boots—that enhances the sport. Along with the growth in backcountry skiing has come the demand for more backcountry areas. Recently, though, illegal cutting on public and private lands to create open ski lines, known as glades, have tarnished the sincerity and authenticity of this great wilderness sport.

In response to illegal cutting and increased demand for more ski glades, the Rochester/Randolph Sports Trails Alliance was formed in 2013 to create legal and ecologically sustainable glades for public access. Fortunately for Middlebury, some of the best glades in Vermont were created by RASTA just a short, 40-minute drive south to Brandon Gap. RASTA has accomplished something unprecedented in the management of public lands by working alongside the Forests

MORGAN PERLMAN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Bear Brook Ridge
Chittenden Brook Trail
Long Trail
No Name Peak
3382'
Green Mountain National Forest
3183'
Bear Brook Bowl
No Name Ridge
Sunrise Bowl
Goshen Mountain
3292'
Bear Brook Bowl Backcountry Area
Up Track
Sunrise Shelter
Sunrise Bowl Backcountry Area
Goshen Mountain Backcountry Area
Catamount Trail
No Name Backcountry Area
Brandon Gap
Caution Stream Crossing
Caution Boulders & Cliffs
Brandon Mountain Rd
Bear Brook Bowl Access and Trailhead
Trailhead Address:
8107 Brandon Mtn Rd
Rochester, VT
Brandon Gap Long Trail Parking Lot
Trailhead Address:
3255 Gap Rd
Goshen, VT
Joseph Battell Wilderness Area
Gap Rd
Moosalamoo Recreational Area
73
MAP LEGEND
Trails
Up Tracks (Uphill Only)
Backcountry Zones
Trailhead Parking
Roads
Brandon Gap Backcountry Area Map
R.A.S.T.A.
VERMONT BACKCOUNTRY ALLIANCE
SKI THE TREES - SAVE THE FOREST
NO VEGETATION CUTTING IN THESE AREAS
The future of additional access opportunities relies on you - respect public and private lands. To volunteer, contact RASTA at www.rastavt.org
BACKCOUNTRY SAFETY
EMERGENCY: CALL 911
WINTER SAFETY: YOUR RESPONSIBILITY
Every year people are injured, lost or even die in winter recreation related accidents. You are entering a remote, unpatrolled area where hidden hazards, changing conditions and varied terrain all affect your saftey. Be prepared for a backcountry emergency by carrying enough gear and extra warm clothing to be self-sufficient for an extended period of time. Help can be difficult to summon and there may be significant delay in receiving emergency assistance. Never ski/ride alone.
0
0.25
0.5
1
Miles

R.A.S.T.A.

Service to permit the creation of glades in a National Forest. Never before has the Forest Service, an organization with a philosophy of multi-purpose/use management, recognized backcountry downhill skiing as a recreational sport by creating areas exclusively for it: glades. RASTA makes these backcountry ski areas possible by taking responsibility for the creation and maintenance of these new recreation zones that the Forest Service otherwise lacks the resources to take on.

Just a short distance south of Middlebury, the glades, which are located on the south side of Brandon Gap in the Green Mountain National Forest, are about as good as Vermont skiing can get. After a storm, first-tracks powder runs can last for days and the wilderness character of the forests provides a truly sublime experience if one skins up. It's like going on a beautiful winter hike in the Green Mountains, but with the thrill of skiing down! Boasting four different backcountry zones, two trailheads and dozens of lines, there are many options at Brandon, suited for people with differently abilities and objectives. The entire network of glades along Brandon Gap is connected via the Long Trail, so full-day touring adventures are also possible.

Basics of Brandon and Backcountry

As for equipment, AT or Telemark (tele) gear with skins and the ability to use them are necessary. Middlebury Outdoor Programs (MOP) has recently purchased AT gear and held introductory backcountry ski trips, so look for MOP programs to gain experience. You can borrow tele skis and skins from Middlebury's Free Heelers Club. Peter Kerby-Miller (pkerbymiller@middlebury.edu) is the contact for the club.

The Long Trail Approach

This trailhead is at the top of Brandon gap where the Long Trail crosses. To access this area, you park at that point and skin along the right-hand side of the road until you reach the long trail. Follow the trail until you reach a trail sign that directs you right to ascend on the RASTA uphill skin track. The uphill skin track will always be marked by a yellow medallion.

The ski options here vary. The first backcountry area along the skin track is Sunrise Bowl which you can drop into at any point going up or you can wait to get to the top where a sign greets you. Sunrise Bowl is nice and mellow with some sweet low-pitch, consistent glades. Doing laps here can be fun. Sunrise Bowl lasts about 500 vertical feet before you get back onto the long trail, which is the runout back to the car.

The other zone accessible from this trailhead is the Goshen Mountain Backcountry Area, which you access by continuing on the uphill track past the Sunrise Bowl sign, eventually reaching the top of Goshen Mountain, which has some unique elevation meadows that provide sweeping views north on a clear day. This zone is steep and has about 1200 vertical feet. It is excellent after a big dump of snow and is recommended for expert skiers. If the snowpack is thin or there is little to no base, the lower section of the Goshen Mountain glades can have very thin cover, so use caution. The runout of Goshen requires skinning back to the car.

The Bear Brook/No Name Trail

The parking area for this trailhead is on the eastern side of Brandon Gap, just down the road from the Long Trail parking area. This trailhead accesses two zones — the Bear Brook and No Name Backcountry Areas. Bear Brook has the most vertical drop of the all the Brandon Gap zones, with a thrilling 1,300 feet of open woods. The glades in here are consistently steep and are absolutely heavenly after a big storm. Some lines in this area have small cliffs and drop-offs for an exciting powder experience. At a fork with a kiosk, follow the yellow medallions on the left for the uphill skin track. The way down will take you back to the short flat approach, where you will need to skin back out to the car.

The No Name area is accessed by another skin track on the right of the trail kiosk that ascends about 1000 ft. and has a more mellow assent for an easygoing run. Both these areas are perfect for doing laps. If multiple runs and vertical is what you're after, Bear Brook works well by skiing halfway down and skinning back up before hitting the flat runout.

Check out the RASTA website for more info and maps: http://www.rastavt.org/ And feel free to contact me at mperlman@middlebury.edu for questions or if you're interested learning more about backcountry skiing opportunities.

Porter Hospital Express Clinic to Open Soon

By Rebecca Walker
Local Editor

Construction is underway at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury for a clinic called "Porter Express Care" that is due to open around the beginning of June. The clinic will offer urgent care services every day of the week to provide care for patients that cannot visit a primary care office and to eliminate the crowds of patients in the emergency room. Plans for a project like this have been in the works for many years, and the commencement of construction was made possible earlier in March with the designation of the Collins Building conference rooms as a viable location for the clinic.

Porter Express Care will occupy a 16,000 square foot space with five examination rooms and a unique entrance to the Collins Building. Ron Hallman, spokesman for Porter, shared that the clinic will offer treatment for things like earaches, strep throat, urinary tract infections, concussions and other sports injuries. A wide range of "Point of Care" lab tests for common ailments will be made available to all patients. Porter Express Care will provide Addison County clients with a more affordable treatment option that has been missing for years.

"We are very excited about this new project, and more important, our community is clearly both very excited and supportive of our new Express Care project," Porter Medical Center President Dr. Fred Kniffin told *The Addison Independent.*

When Express Care opens in June, the facility will offer services from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays and from 9 a.m.to 5 p.m. or 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, respectively. The walk-in facility will be conducive to easy access to hospital services like lab and radiology. Additionally, the clinic will use the same medical records as Porter Medical Group to aid the process of sharing clinical information with primary care providers for further care.

Dr. Amanda Young has been involved in the planning process for Express Care and she will be the medical director for the clinic upon its opening.

"We believe that Porter Express Care will provide convenient, high-quality and less costly health care services to our community than within a traditional emergency department setting," Dr. Young explained to *The Addison Independent.*

In total, the construction of Porter Express Care costs $485,000. Hallman shared that the funds that have made the construction of the clinic possible come from donations and financial resources from the "contingency capital fund" at Porter. As of March 16, $165,000 was successfully raised in pledges and major donations. A $50,000 gift was pledged by the Porter Medical Center Auxiliary as well as a $15,000 gift from the Middlebury Lions Club. Additionally, there have been two anonymous gift contributions of $50,000 to aid in the creation of the clinic. Proponents and creators of the clinic remain optimistic about the continuation of donations in the coming months.

In a document shared with *The Campus* by Ron Hallman, the Express Care project is said to represent "a significant step forward in supporting Porter's mission of 'improving the health of our community, one patient at a time.'" The document also stated that "convenience, quality and cost-effective care are the pillars of this new program and will enable Porter to better serve the people of our region who depend on us for their care 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

A Culture of Communication

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

A series of recent administrative decisions has heightened tension between the student body and the College administration, with the Charles Murray event bringing that conflict to a head. New College policies regarding off-campus housing, our universal meal plan and the flying of a Black Lives Matter flag on McCullough have all attracted criticism from students who resent the administration's unilateral influence over daily student life. But where does this resentment originate? How can students' negative view of the administration be mitigated?

We have a few ideas about how both the administration and students could lessen the animosity flowing between the two as of late:

Administrators, please let us know what you're thinking. Often, students feel that decisions have been made abruptly and without enough student input. When we feel a decision that affects our daily life is thrust upon us from above, there is an instinct to fight back against the vertical decision-making machine that arbitrates our fate on campus.

We don't mean that there should be more open forums or surveys — to some extent, students who are engaged with the issues will continue to attend such events while others will remain absent. Rather, we are requesting more frequent updates on what topics you administraters are considering each week.

For example, the Senior Leadership Group could publish a short, even bullet-pointed version of their weekly meeting's agenda. The brief piece would serve as a progress report of sorts to the student body, alerting any interested student to the topics under consideration by the administration. Then, students who are concerned about any subject could email members of the SLG and engage in a real dialogue with administrators that can be open and honest instead of reactionary and frustrated.

In the absence of such open communication about the College's behind-the-scenes operations, students are left frustrated and wondering why the administration seems to be prioritizing reputation or fundraising over the wellbeing of its students. Deeper, more personal and more vulnerable communication from administrators to the student body would reduce space for speculation about what alterior motives are influencing College decisions.

This level of communication is most crucial — and most notably lacking — when a major event occurs, like the Charles Murray protests.

In the weeks since the protest at Murray's talk, one question looms large and unanswered in students' minds: How will the administration discipline the protesters?

At the event, Bill Burger, Vice President for Communications and Chief Marketing Officer for the College, repeatedly told the audience, largely comprised of student protesters, that there would be consequences for anyone who failed to abide by the College's policies on student protest. Burger read the Demonstrations and Protests policy definition of "disruptive" protest aloud: "purposeful blocking the view of others at the event; banners or items that block the audience's view; noise or action that disrupts the ability of the audience to hear...or disrupting essential operations at the College."

After the event, President Laurie Patton, in a school-wide email, confirmed that student protesters would face consequences. But the letter of the protest policy allows for a wide range of disciplinary action, from criminal charges, expulsion or suspension to a reflective meeting with a Dean.

Since Dean of Students Baishaki Taylor's all-College email on March 10, communication from the administration has gone radio silent regarding what disciplinary action will be taken. Students have been left in the dark, wondering whether their friends face expulsion or even criminal charges.

It is this type of information void that is filled with student mistrust of the administration.

After an emotionally intense confrontation between students and institution, we students are listening, waiting for a sign that the administration hears our concerns, cares deeply about our well-being and is seeking answers. Instead, we aren't sure what could happen next, and the only messages we receive from the administration are thoughtful essay-emails that lose the personal in their intellectual philosophizing and moralizing. Silence, or highly sanitized emails, promote the feeling among students that administrators care more about the school's PR agenda than about student well-being. A human, honest update on the process the administration is following to deal with the protest fallout could go a long way toward healing the disconnect between students and the College leaders.

Yes, the divide between students and administrators is caused by both sides. More students need to take more initiative to engage with administrators and take more ownership of our campus culture. We need to bring our best, most thoughtful selves to the table when we interact with administrators. But the administrators set the tone for communication; they are the ones who have the power to reach across the divide and offer students information about what is happening: this can be the first step. After that, students need to recognize the effort from Old Chapel and step up to respond in kind.

Another protest will happen in the future, or some other emotional event that could divide our campus further. If the administration keeps channels of communication with students open, rather than isolating themselves in selective, closed-door meetings, maybe the next protest can bring us together instead of drive us apart.

The Middlebury Campus

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Diversity and Free Speech

READER OP-ED

***Jay Parini, Professor of English,** writes about the role of free speech in diversity.*

One of the unfortunate things to come from the Charles Murray incident on March 2 was some confusion about diversity and free speech. They are not values in opposition. In fact, diversity cannot prosper as a social ideal without free speech, which lies at the base of all democratic societies.

I believe passionately in diversity, which means that we as an academic community support people of color, gay people, people with disabilities and people from the margins, especially those without economic or social clout. And this includes first generation students — a group with whom I have a particular affinity.

I came from a family of Italian immigrants, and my parents didn't go to school beyond the eighth grade. (My father later took upon himself the hard work of self-study, and in his late forties qualified as a Baptist minister, having attended night school for decades). I was the first person in my family to attend college, and many in my extended family did not have this opportunity. I know firsthand what problems those without access to information or academic skills suffer. And they do suffer. They are sent to fight our wars. They wonder how to get access to medical care and how to live after retirement on almost nothing. This sucks.

America is not an easy place today for anyone on or near the margins. This seems especially true for people of color, who experience racism every day. Indeed, the current occupant of the White House is a bigot who thinks that American judges of Mexican heritage can't make rational decisions. He mocks people with disabilities. On and on. It's no wonder everyone who cares about social justice — and everything that entails — feels confused, if not terrified, and often angry. I know I'm confused, terrified and angry.

After forty-one years of teaching, mostly at Middlebury, I also know that all our students of color, all our LGBT students or students with disabilities, and all who come from families who are not well-off, are gifted with high intelligence. We don't accept students who are not able to argue and debate questions. And nobody gets ahead in this world, especially today, without a tough hide, without the ability to withstand the harsh judgments and prejudice.

I think in the aftermath of the Murray incident we see that Middlebury really is a safe space for argument. We can make challenging distinctions and test ourselves against arguments put forward by members of our community itself — and there is healthy swirl of voices — as well as speakers of all political stripes who challenge us and our values. Moreover, we revel in strong debates, and this, for me, is what free speech is really about and why I treasure it.

The very last speech that Martin Luther King Jr. delivered was in Memphis on April 3, 1968. The city authorities had taken out an injunction forbidding him to speak at a rally four days later. King said: "If I lived in China, or Russia, or maybe any totalitarian country, maybe I could understand some of these legal injunctions. Maybe I could understand the denial of certain basic First Amendment privileges, because they haven't committed themselves to that over there." He paused, then he said with a thunderous voice: "But somewhere I read of freedom of speech."

These were almost his last public words before he was gunned down.

It's a slippery slope when anybody's speech is denied. Today Charles Murray, tomorrow someone who believes abortion is immoral, or who imagines that Palestinians have a right to a homeland, or who worries aloud that global warming is a real threat to the planet, or who thinks the poor have a basic human right to medical care.

It goes without saying that protests of all kinds are welcomed and encouraged in this community. There is no progress without conflict, and no justice without a demand for justice. So it's encouraging to see such force of feeling on this campus But protest needs to be targeted properly and artfully carried out. And violent protest is *always* counterproductive, as Dr. King understood when he said, "The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy; instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it." You may shout down the hater, but you do not shout down hate.

Ultimately, free speech makes diversity possible. And those at Middlebury College who believe in diversity should be the first to stand up for free speech, as well as for thoughtful, effective and nonviolent protest and for strong arguments that are based on actual facts, not "alternative" ones.

Hindsight is 20/20

OP-ED

Librarian Katrina Spencer and ERS Manager Arabella Holzapfel *write about how guidelines for aquiring library resources can inform how we vet speakers.*

Hi, I'm Katrina Spencer (go/katrina/), the Literatures & Cultures Librarian at the Davis Family Library. I'm the person populating the wooden, easel-shaped display with rainbow-themed items, one of the people responding to e-mails atrefdesk@middlebury.edu and one of the people who will teach you how to request library purchases: go/requests/.

And my name is Arabella Holzapfel, the Electronic Resources Manager for the Middlebury College Libraries. I'm the person that makes sure we have access to all the EBSCO-based databases you use, the famous JSTOR and all the other online resources you need late Sunday night for your Monday morning deadlines. I am magic. I am a goddess. Hear me roar.

We have been thinking over the Charles Murray-related events and we, like the community, are troubled. Deeply. Katrina came up with an idea to write a piece that would help highlight some of the concerns we have surrounding this controversy, phrasing it in terms we are intimately familiar with. Hence, "How Evaluating Online Databases for Subscriptions Can Be Like Researching Presenters for Campus Speaking Invitations" was born. While we realize this work does not serve as a perfect analogy with one-to-one parity on how we "vet" speakers before inviting them to campus, the comparison will nonetheless raise some significant points of consideration. Join us on a rhetorical journey.

When the library staff prepares to make a decision about what databases and journals will be made available to our community, which includes quite the array of high-performing scholars, there is an extensive series of questions we ask ourselves, not limited to the list below. Sample a subset:

–Who wants the new subscription? Why? Does it serve the needs of people beyond this specific demographic? Should it?

–Does the new subscription do any harm? Do the new subscription's holdings provide new information/complicate old information/refute old information? How? Should they? What is the monetary cost and how does it fit into our budget? Can we afford it in dollars?

–What are the educational and academic costs/benefits of the new subscription and how does it fit or not fit into our academic relationships with students, faculty, staff and community members? Does it serve our values? Can our conscience afford it?

–Does the new subscription siphon resources we have for other subscriptions that have proven to be worthy and reliable?

–Do the new subscription's holdings add something new, unique, worthwhile and credible to the campus' discourses?

–Who else can I consult on this potential purchase? If a subscription is particularly expensive - if the predictable long-term cost to the community is high - how can we make a collaborative decision that involves as many "stakeholders" as possible?

Now let's apply this to future invited speakers:

–Who wants to invite the speaker? Why? Does the speaker serve the needs of people beyond this specific demographic? Should they?

–What is the monetary cost and how does it fit into our budget? Can we afford the invitation in dollars?

–What are the educational, academic and social costs/benefits of inviting the speaker and how does the invitation fit into our social relationships with students, faculty, staff and community members? Does it serve our values? Can our conscience afford it? Does the invited speaker do any harm? Does the speaker's presence build new/complicate old/destroy potential relationships? How? Should they?

–Does the invited speaker siphon resources we have for other invited speakers that have proven to be worthy and reliable?

–Does the invited speaker add something new, unique, worthwhile and credible to the campus' discourses?

–Who else can I consult on inviting this potential guest? Am I myself aware of what the predictable, long-term costs, of all kinds, are to the community, and if not, who else should I consult?

In all transparency, the recent events in our community make us question whether we, as a community, considered the questions just above with the rigor we ought to. And maybe we should from now on. Systematically. Regularly. You know, sort of like a practice. A policy.

Food for thought.

Finding a Middle Way

READER OP-ED

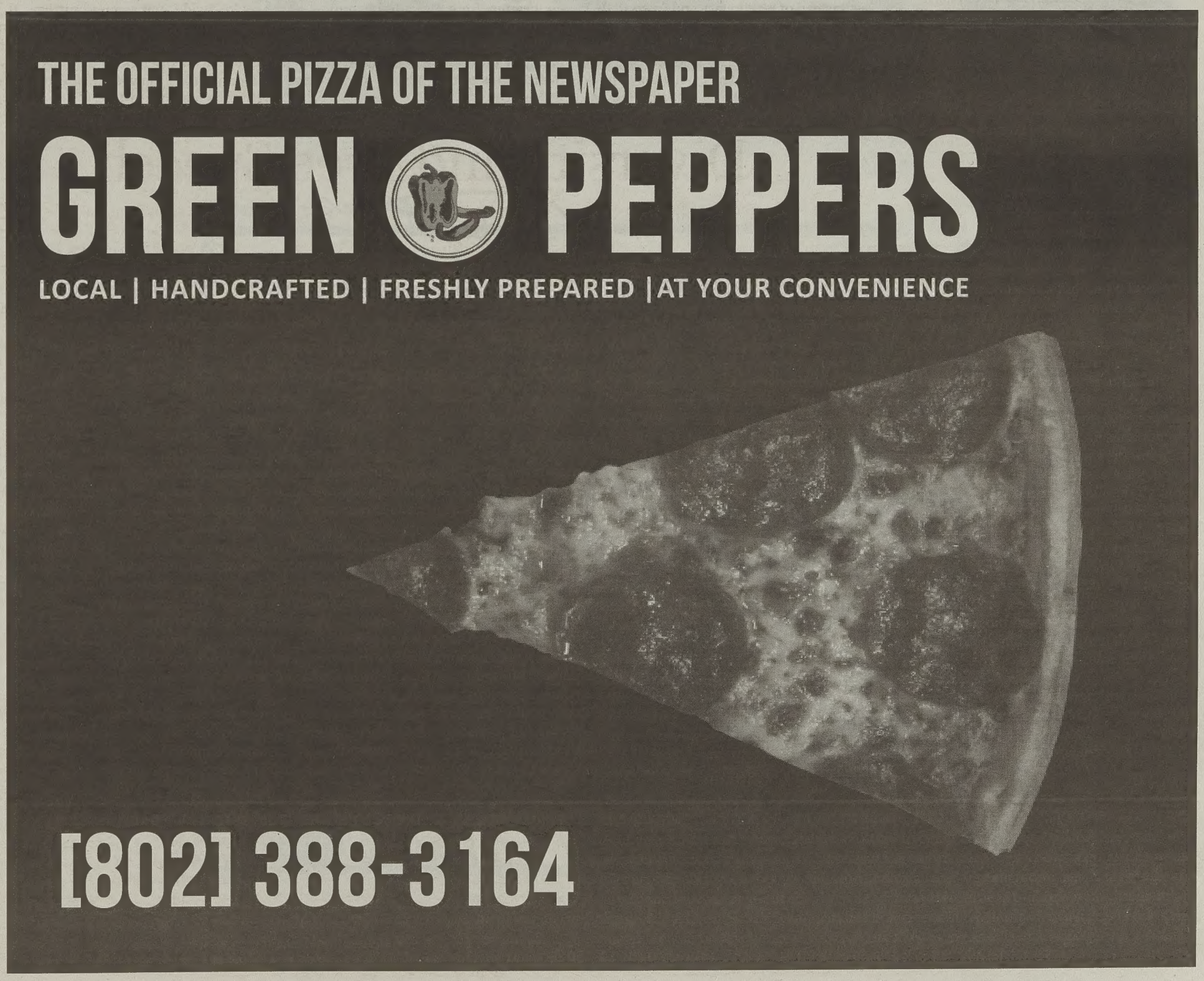
Erik Bleich, Professor of Political Science, *writes about finding common ground in the wake of the Charles Murray incident.*

The Charles Murray visit continues to divide us. More than that, it has polarized members of our community. Some people argue that the visit revealed a fundamental lack of respect for marginalized groups on campus. Others feel that shutting down Murray's talk violated an essential commitment to free speech.

These are not incompatible views. Many of us likely agree that we need to do more to support students from diverse backgrounds and that free speech is vital to our college. In the current atmosphere it is easy to forget how much we have in common.

Building a coalition around this middle position requires embracing the core perspectives of each side. I signed the Free Inquiry on Campus statement of principles. I look forward to signing a robust statement of support for diversity and inclusion.

We cannot simply set aside the divisions revealed by recent events. It will take time, patience, empathy and kindness to work through them. But in the long run, we should uphold each of these central values. When someone said that advocating the middle position means you just want it both ways, the title of a Maile Meloy book came immediately to mind: "Both ways is the only way I want it."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CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily
65 DAYS!
What? I don't have a job!
Yeah, well...
You did your thesis in the fall! I still have that to do!
Hmm...
Maybe by May we'll be in nuclear war...
April, I bet.

EMILY COX

URIEL ULLOA

WIN HOMER

ARTISTS

NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Double-Dog Dare
Guys, odds are I eat this cupcake I found in the trash.
why would you-
Oh my GOD I can't believe you're making me do this
what no
LITERALLY NO ONE wants you to-
GOD you guys are so crazy, I'll get you back for this
WHAT IS HAPPENING
HA HAHA WOW THIS TASTES SO GROSS IT'S MOLDY WOW YOU GUYS ARE THE WORST HAHA

KAITLYND COLLINS

WHY MIDD KIDS CH

Last week, Edward Snowden cyber-visited our campus. He discussed a changing world where technology is developing at lightening speed and our computers know more about us than we ever thought possible. Inspired by his lecture, *The Campus* decided to explore the computers being used at Midd. What we discovered is a Macbook Middlebury.

Five years ago, tech blog Asymco reported that the ratio between PCs sold vs. Macs sold approached 1985 levels – the year after Apple released its first Mac in 1984. Never mind the rise of the ubiquitous iPhone, Apple continues to whip its competitors in selling computers. For another consecutive year, the company outpaced PC sales with its sleek (and pricey, the cheapest model is nearly $1,000) selection of Macbooks. According to data from research firm Gartner, Macbook shipments increased by 1.5 percent from last year, while shipments for PCs declined by 8.6 percent.

Respondents in the national survey who identified as college-aged were twice as likely to purchase a PC, rather than a Macbook, as their next laptop. Among Middlebury students, that ratio was reversed.

The numbers point to the Macbook's steady climb in the last decade. And a Sunday afternoon stroll through Davis Family Library confirms it, at least among Middlebury students.

But for most Americans, their next computer purchase will be a PC, not a Mac. Of the nearly 4,400 U.S. adults surveyed in June 2015 who planned to buy a new computer or tablet, only 22 percent said they'd buy a Mac, compared to 53 percent who chose a PC.

This survey, conducted by Civic Science, also tracked some characteristics of Apple versus PC loyalists. The few Americans who chose Macs were 62 percent more likely to be of college-age, or 18 to 24 years old. They were also 40 percent more likely to have a graduate degree, and twice as likely to have some degree in arts or humanities. They also had more money, being 78 percent more likely to earn more than $150,000 a year.

Sound familiar? It should.

The Middlebury Campus conducted an unscientific Google survey of 195 Middlebury students, representing roughly 10 percent of the total student population. The distribution of responses by class year was roughly even and the proportion of those who said they were on financial aid reflected the overall student body. However, the survey failed in its sample to capture enough international students – they made up just 5 percent of the total sample, though they're 10 percent of the college's student body.

This week, we present the results.

Respondents in the national survey who identified as college-aged were twice as likely to purchase a PC, rather than a Macbook, as their next laptop. Among Middlebury students, that ratio was reversed: 72 percent of respondents said they owned a Macbook while 28 percent said they owned a PC. Macbook owners were less likely to be on financial aid and more likely to be Febs. Of those on financial aid, the split between Mac and PC users was roughly 50/50, with a slight lean towards PCs.

This makes sense; for students on full, or near-full financial aid, the College provides Dell laptops. Furthermore, "cost and affordability" was one of the top two reasons for owning a PC (the other was "Familiar Operating System").

On the flip side, the top two reasons for owning a Macbook were "Familiar Operating System" and "Compatible Software." Ten percent of Middlebury students who owned Macs also cited "peer pressure" as one of the deciding factors. Just one cited "cost/affordability."

The overwhelming popularity of Macbooks on campus wasn't always the case.

"I started here in 1999 and there were mostly PCs," said the College's Wireless Network Administrator Rick James. "There were very few Macs on campus. Everyone had desktops." James noted a switch around 2005, when laptops began to take off among students.

"A Macbook was the first type of computer that I got in high school," said Anna Dennis '17.5, an International Politics and Economics major. "I got it because I'm not super good with computers. It's really user-friendly and easy to set-up."

Adam Druckman '19 owns a Macbook Pro, "with a retina display," he said, though he owned a PC laptop in high school. "I chose to get it because I got a student deal through Apple. It was like $200 off and I figured most students at Middlebury would have a Mac as well, so they could help me troubleshoot problems."

The laptop choice of Middlebury students, while not surprising from a socioeconomic standpoint, might be better suited for private home use, rather than for bigger shared platforms like Middlebury's wireless network.

"You have to authenticate here [to connect to the wifi]," said James. "And we're finding that Apple will make changes under the hood and never tell us. We're left hanging, trying to figure out the connectivity issues."

It's easier to troubleshoot problems on PCs than on Macbooks because there's more transparency to what's "under the hood" of its operating system, whether its Windows or Linux, James said. The code behind Apple's operating system, or iOS, is less accessible to user changes, and somewhat guarded like a company secret. While a PC can often be fixed by someone working the College's Help Desk, a Macbook glitch often means a call or visit to an Apple store.

For several weeks last spring, Druckman struggled to get his @middlebury.edu account to work on his Macbook.

"I couldn't send e-mails anymore and the Help Desk couldn't help me," Druckman said. "I had to use my Gmail for three or four weeks. Finally, it resolved itself. I just restarted my computer a couple times and then one day, it worked."

A "Mac vs. PC report card" on the Library & ITS wiki site compares the two laptops for campus use – from compatibility with Office Outlook, the College's e-mail platform, to hooking up with classroom projectors.

"[The report card] is mostly geared towards faculty and staff," James said, adding that Middlebury students can just as easily use a Macbook on campus as they could a PC. "We don't really care," he said, when it comes to student laptop choice. "We're trying to serve both."

On the wiki page, PCs dominate with mostly A's and B's, receiving a handful of F's, most notably for higher risk of spam and virus attacks. The Mac side is littered with lower grades, mostly B's and C's, especially when it comes to compatibility with Middlebury platforms.

Though Macs score a B on Outlook performance (compared to an A for PCs), the report card rewards Apple for creative editing software like the Final Cut Suite, iMovie and GarageBand, that's not available on PCs.

"I'm a Studio Art major, so I thought Macs were better suited for creative platforms," said Win Homer '17, who draws cartoons and enjoys film.

But there's a long list of applications that can't run on Apple's operating system, mostly software geared for scientific analysis like Protein Explorer and Allele A1 and statistic programs like Stata.

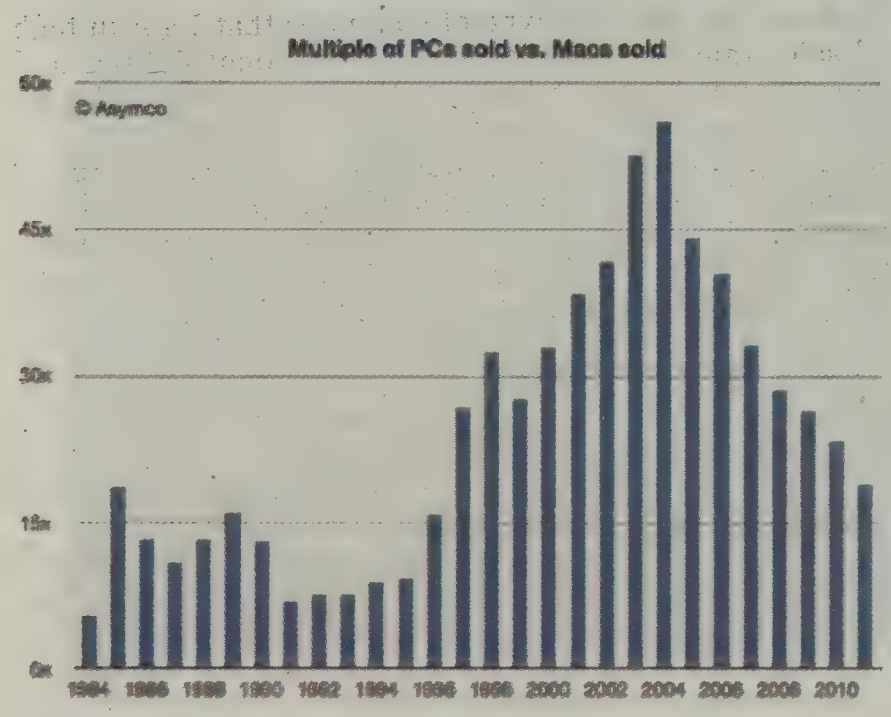
"Macs can run Windows, and this is an option for running PC-only programs," the report card reads. "However, this can be daunting if you've never used a PC with windows. Running Windows on your Mac does not make the Windows side immune to viruses ... Running two operating systems does put extra pressure on your Mac ... you may run out of space sooner (this shouldn't be a common problem with newer Macs)."

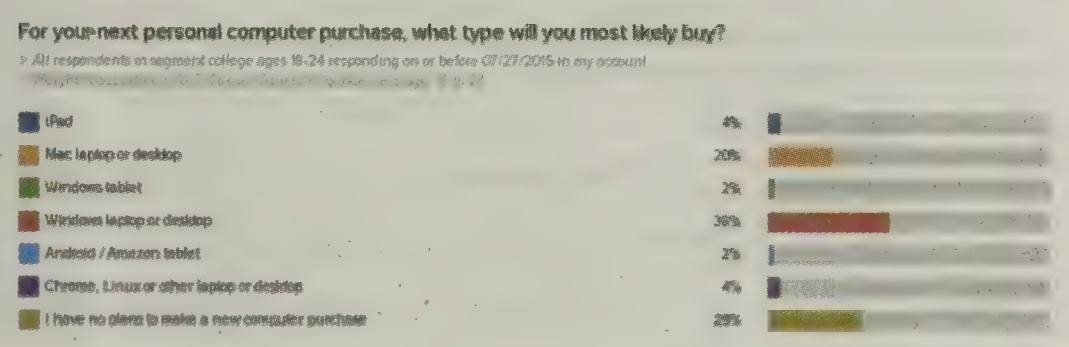
Furthermore, Apple laptops require an adaptor to connect to most Middlebury projectors (for the common in-class presentation). Most PCs, including Dells, don't. Lucky for Midd kids, the library loans these adaptors, or "dongles", for free. Or you could invest in your own.

CHOOSE MACBOOKS

Written by Hye-Jin Kim
Design by Julia Hatheway

NATIONAL STATISTICS

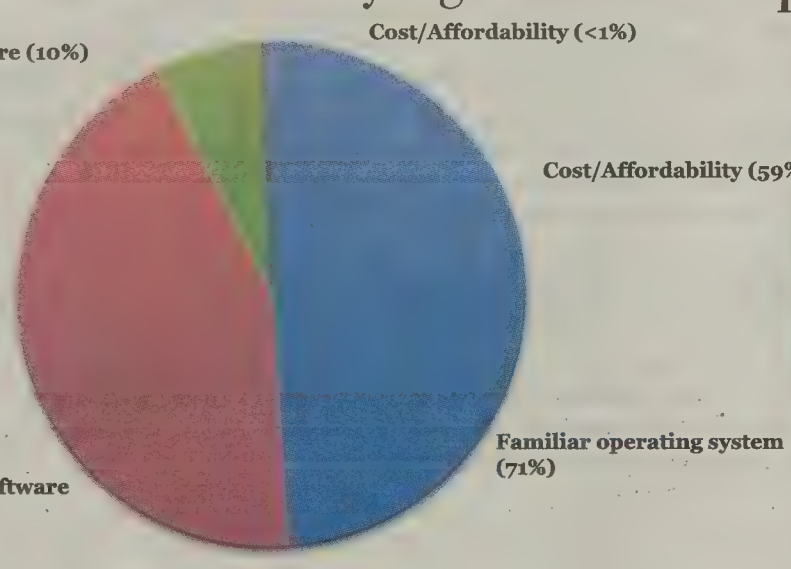



For your next personal computer purchase, what type will you most likely buy?
iPad 4%
Mac laptop or desktop 20%
Windows tablet 2%
Windows laptop or desktop 38%
Android / Amazon tablet 2%
Chrome, Linux or other laptop or desktop 4%
I have no plans to make a new computer purchase 28%

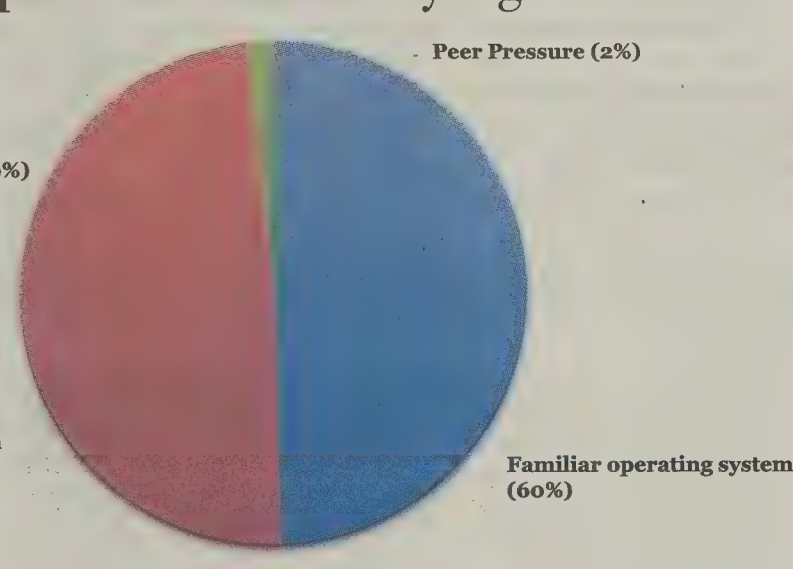
CivicScience studied the profiles of 4,399 U.S. adults polled in July 2015 (527 respondents were aged 18 to 24)

MIDDLEBURY STATISTICS

Top Reasons For Buying Macs



Top Reasons For Buying PCs



72%
Of respondents own Macs

56%
Of respondents on financial aid own PCs

81%
Of feb respondents own Macs

28%
Of respondents own PCs

44%
Of respondents on financial aid own Macs

19%
Of feb respondents own PCs

***The college provides students on near-full financial aid with Dell laptops**

Middlebury Google Survey: 195 Students (21 Febs, 174 Regular), 30% Seniors, 20% Juniors, 21% Sophomores. 26% First-Years, 3% Post-grads. 45% respondents on financial aid, 38% of Feb respondents on financial aid.

Share to Wear Places Second in LaunchVT

By Courtenay Roche
Contributing Writer

Middlebury-grown clothing rental company Share to Wear took second place in the second annual LaunchVT collegiate competition on Feb. 24, earning the founders Linley Shaw '17 and Charlotte Reider-Smith '19 $2,000 in funds to grow the company.

LaunchVT is an entrepreneurship initiative sponsored by the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce designed to give Vermont startups a platform to share ideas and gain valuable entrepreneurial experience.

The collegiate competition is specifically catered towards student-operated businesses around Vermont. In each competition, teams have 10 minutes to explain their business model, target market, product or service design and their use of funds within the business. Teams are judged on whether or not their business plan is "viable and offers a likelihood of meaningful growth and successful business," according to LaunchVT's website.

This year, groups of students from nine colleges and universities throughout the state pitched their business models for the chance to win $7,500, and the chance to participate as a finalist in the LaunchVT competition on May 12.

Share to Wear, which launched at Middlebury in November, lets students rent out other students' dresses for formal events for $10 each. The company's mission is to make high-end dresses accessible to people who couldn't afford them otherwise, to eliminate clothing waste and to grow the community of college students supporting each other feeling beautiful in what they're wearing.

After pitching their business to a panel of three judges, Middlebury's Share to Wear won second place and $2,000 to use to expand their company.

Their competition included "PetMed" a product that automatically dispenses your pet's daily medication, and Beacon, a craigslist-like company that matches college students with one-time or part-time gigs. PetMed went on to take third place, while Beacon won first prize.

Shaw said she and her team "could not have been more proud" of Share to Wear's second place win.

Shaw said of the winning company, Beacon: "the idea was just further along, and had the most obvious ways of making money."

Shaw also sees her Share to Wear win as a victory for female entrepreneurs.

"We went and we were the only group of all females. There was one group with a few women, but the rest were all men. It was definitely empowering in that sense ... [we thought] it would be especially exciting to do well," said Shaw.

Shaw is optimistic about Share to Wear's future.

"We had a really solid pitch, and while we haven't made the numbers an investor might want to see, we're confident that as we expand [our business] we'll be able to really increase our rental numbers," she said.

How exactly does Shaw plan on expanding Share to Wear in the future? The major goal, which Shaw and the rest of the team have been working tirelessly towards, is to expand the business model to other northeast colleges and universities.

They plan on coming up with a "starter pack" to sell to students interested in implementing a Share to Wear rental system at their schools.

"Students at other schools have reached out to us already, mostly through word of mouth from their friends [at Middlebury]" Shaw said.

Shaw is currently planning a trial launch at the University of Vermont to see how the business does there. They will also be visiting career centers and pitching the idea to interested students.

"We just want to say, hey, this worked at our school and we want to expand ... we want to hire, and we want this to be an on-campus internship for somebody at your school," said Shaw. "They're looking for students interested in fashion, and also committed to the long hours of work that are necessary to run a startup. "We're all really grateful for this, and it's been really fun — but you do need to be motivated, and you need to be organized."

Share to Wear is also looking to expand within the Middlebury community, and spend some of the competition money on marketing and branding materials.

COURENAY ROCHE

Linley Shaw '17 and Rachael Salerno '18 pose with Share to Wear's inventory. Share to Wear recently placed second at LaunchVT comeptition and won $2,000 in prize money.

"We just got a new logo, we're going to get some new stickers and we're thinking about getting tote bags," Shaw said.

The team is also considering opening more days of the week to increase traffic. Share to Wear is currently open on Thursday and Friday evenings from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Old Stone Mill, but the team is considering lengthening their hours on Thursdays and Fridays, or adding more weekday openings.

Shaw and the rest of the Share to Wear team are excited by how much success they've had. Nobody on the team anticipated just how successful the business plan would be, on or off campus.

"I thought it was going to be a little bit more difficult for students to share their clothing, but people have been very receptive to it, which is great," Shaw said. "I think that shows how many dresses we have in our closet that we don't even need. We thought it would just be at Middlebury, but now we're already thinking about expanding to other schools."

Shaw is even considering continuing to grow the business after she graduates this spring.

"I thought 'wow this would be a great thing to put on my resume,' but now it might be my future career!" she said. "I never expected it to grow this big, but I did hope that people would see the great things about Share to Wear, and they have. I could not be happier about that."

Robert Stolz Gives Talk on Fukushima Disaster

By James Finn
Contributing Writer

Robert Stolz, an associate history professor at the University of Virginia, presented a talk called "A Critical Genealogy of Japan's Fukushima Disaster" at Middlebury's Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs on Wednesday, Mar. 15.

The talk focused on the 2011 Fukushima disaster, Minamata disease and other environmental disasters in Japan as a lens through which to analyze fluctiations in Japanese culture and politics in response to various environmental disasters. Stolz wrote a book in 2014 on politics of the environment in Japan ("Bad Water: Nature, Pollution and Politics in Japan, 1870-1950"). He is also the co-editor of an East-Asia journal published by Cornell University called *Tosaka Sun: A Critical Reader* and has published many articles on Japanese environmental studies.

Stolz was invited to speak by the History Department, and was hosted by Assistant Professor of Japanese History Max Ward and Assistant History Professor Maggie Clinton. Ward said that Stolz was invited to help commemorate recent Japanese environmental disasters through the socio-political lens that Stolz uses to analyze these disasters.

"My colleagues in Japanese Studies and I hoped to commemorate the Triple Disaster in Japan, the Tōhoku Earthquake, tsunami and meltdown at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear power plant," Ward said. "This year we were lucky to have Professor Stolz here to situate the Fukushima nuclear disaster within a longer history of environmental disasters in Japan and their effects on political and social thought."

Stolz brings a broad perspective to his study of Japan and the environment. His work has focused on identifying the trends that tie Japan's environmental disaster together and the social change that comes with these trends. He spoke at length about Minamata disease, a crippling neurological disease that originated from mercury leaks in the city of Minamata in 1956, and the social dynamics and prejudices that came to surround both the disease and people in the area.

"Professor Stolz ... address[es] the particular challenges such environmental crises have posed for political thought, both in Japan's modern history, as well as for political thought in general," Ward said. "In other words, beyond scientific or technical responses, these crises demand that we reflect on our own political subjectivity and social practices."

A number of Japanese language and history students were in attendance for Stolz's talk.

"Last year when I was in Japan, I attended several talks about Fukushima," Anthony Tian '17 said. "Although I have learned about this topic quite a lot before coming to the talk, I very much enjoyed Professor Stolz's talk, mainly because of the unique angle that he takes. I like how he finds the connection among the three cases, the Ashio pollution, the Minamata disease and Fukushima, and studies them under the history of toxic events."

Although the title of Stolz's talk referenced Fukushima, Minamata disease played a central role to the presentation. Stolz spoke about Minamata not only as analysis of the disease itself but as a discussion of a pedagogy referred to simply as "Minamata Studies," which sprung up in the wake of the mercury poisoning and disease that afflicted Minamata City.

Scholars in Japan are using Stolz's approach of analyzing Japanese environmental catastrophe through a wider socio-political lens in order to confront the challenges faced by the people in Minamata. The Open Research Center for Miamata Studies opened in Minamata City in 2005 and seeks "to establish an open research system that involves not only academic experts but also local actors, activists and victims ... [and] to establish a research system firmly oriented to the afflicted community, learning from the community and giving the achievements back to the community," according to the research center's website.

"Professor Stolz... address[es] the particular challenges such environmental crises have posed for political thought, both in Japan's modern history, as well as for political thought in general."

MAX WARD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF JAPANESE HISTORY

Tian, a Japanese and History double-major, saw the talk as pertinent to Japan's situation today. He hopes to see people act to help fix this problem as the dialogue surrounding Japan's environmental identity continues to play out.

"Although the Minamata and Fukushima cases have shown some limitations in the modern-day democracy, they have affected and even changed the field of science," Tian said. "I also think it is right to start to question the decision of sacrificing certain regions for the sake of national development. In the end, I asked [Professor Stolz] the question if the Japanese have truly learned from those cases, from which I was happy to learn that, in fact, people have begun to act."

Ward said that he hopes students and other attendees were able to commemorate the catastrophes Stolz discussed.

"First and foremost, we hope that students remember the Triple Disaster and its victims," he said. "These crises demand that we reflect on our own political subjectivity and social practices."

Education Department Holds Debate on School Choice

By Dan Miguel Espinosa
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty gathered in Dana Auditorium to discuss "Public Education and the Challenge of Choice" on Wednesday, Mar. 15. The debate was hosted by students from the two sections of Education in the U.S.A (EDST115), taught by Assistant Professor of Education Studies Tara Affolter, and Associate Professor of Education Studies Jonathan Miller-Lane. Several guests not connected to the classes also attended the forum. Miller-Lane's class presented arguments defending "school choice," which promotes providing a variety of school options for kids including public, private or charter schools. Affolter's class presented arguments opposing such measures.

Four students from each class conducted opening statements about the "purpose of education in a democracy, and how that purpose is fulfilled by their particular approach towards school reform." They addressed the "nuances of their school choice argument," looking at how "that choice manifests itself" in three areas of contention: Charters, Vouchers and Open Enrollment and Neighborhood Schools. One student from each side gave a general opening for their respective classes, and three from each class for the aforementioned categories.

School choice proponents argued that "freedom of choice" was essential to American democracy. From a practical standpoint, school choice and charter schools offered the best resources in creating model citizens. They said that, from an economic standpoint, failing to support such options would reinforce existing inequalities. They also argued that vouchers, which allow underprivilaged families to spend government money on private schools, created more good than harm. They believed that abandoning families desperate for aid would be immoral. They also cited the support of vouchers among black and Hispanic parents. School choice, they insisted, is a "necessary addition" to the current educational system, and can provide expanded opportunities for the poor and marginalized. This "alternate school experience" would stir competition, increasing the current system's potential to create positive change.

Those against school choice argued the educational and economic damage the proposed system would bring. They argued that within a school choice system, students are often divided by test scores, thereby creating an environment of competition, rather than one of learning and growth. Teachers' jobs would become dependent on the performance of students. School funding would fall on the decisions of parents that lacked expertise on matters of education. They also argued how school choice undermined democracy, since it increased economic disparities.

The next section of the panel focused on seven questions that pertained to the "privatization" of schools, and their effects on "ensuring equity and access for all students." One question explored reforms made by former Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, and the many ways these reforms impacted public schools. Another sought to rethink the policies of current Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos in Michigan, and the consequences of her efforts in the "choice debate."

Other questions attempted to redefine "excellence" in public schools, and addressed reforms in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. They also debated the roles of corporations and billionaires in their influence on policy and considered which students would be marginalized despite both approaches to choice. For each question, the two classes assembled into groups of four, with one person being selected to present their answer before the forum. Each presenter was given three minutes.

Those criticizing Duncan's policies argued that charter schools give power to a greedy private sector, whose main interest lies in profit. They pointed out that despite the flourishing of some charter schools, hundreds of public schools were forced to close as a result of the charter school craze. With concerns for quality in education, Duncan's critics insisted that his "Reach for the Top" program fostered an environment that incentivized teachers to build their curriculums around tests. Critics of Betsy Devos highlighted her personal detachment from public schools and emphasized her role as a lobbyist rather than as an educator. "Excellence" in public schools was defined as having succeeded in college placement and in the formation of good citizens. Corporations and billionaires were criticized for implementing their agenda through their influence on policy.

On the other hand, supporters of Duncan saw the "Reach for the Top" program as a necessary step in evaluating public school students. They used New Orleans as an example, where charter schools helped rebuild the educational system after Katrina. They also mentioned Philadelphia, where charter schools gave more reading days than the typical public school.

The discussion about education and its relationship with democracy is one that is still ongoing in our country and the Education Studies department. "Democracy is based on the voices and values of individuals contributing to a greater society," said Dani Skor '20, who is taking Education in the U.S.A this semester. "Education's role should be to create citizens that not only have the knowledge they need to function in society, but the skills to succeed in and contribute to such a society .... Currently, I don't think that our education system fulfills this democratic purpose because many children do not have access to schools that can give them a good education."

Thomas Dowd '20, who is also taking EDST115, believes "that the current state of education is not what most people in this country perceive it to be, which is that it is failing our students." Fortunately, programs like the Education Studies department raise awareness about the country's education system and its flaws, which can lead to thoughful discussion on how to address some of the issues.

Market Muing: Saving Sucks

By Jackson Adams
Columnist

You know what sucks? Saving money. It's hard. And it's especially hard for young people. For college students, it's often a moot point. Between tuition and text books, disposable income is scarce, and when we do have it, most of us just spend it. Sometimes you have a little money to save but there's a new pair of LeBrons calling your name – believe me, I know how you feel. But when we hit the "real world" and have a steady stream of income, we need to start saving money, and we need to be doing it effectively.

Here's why: savings rates throughout one's lifetime should look sort of like a rainbow or upside-down U (for the love of god, don't call it a bell curve). The savings rate is what percent of your disposable income (income minus expenses) that you stock away. Ideally, they're low (often negative) when you're young and making little or no money; they increase as your earnings exceed your expenses by more and more; they start to taper off as you cut back hours edging closer to full retirement; and, finally, they become negative when you are retired and living off these accrued savings.

The reality for many people, though, looks like an unused staple. There's no savings until the harsh realization a decade from retirement that there's no money saved, then panic sets in and spending is cut back dramatically to try and save enough. But ultimately, retirement is reached with way too little saved and must cut back even more on spending, thereby lowering one's standard of living. Not good. Even worse when people see it as a lost cause and don't try and save, period. And while this is just a worst-case scenario, *Time* reports that one in three Americans have saved nothing for retirement and more than 50 percent have saved less than $10,000. Spoiler alert: that won't be enough to retire on.

Here's why you should know this now: the earlier you save, the better. Interest compounds. If you have $100 in a savings account that has a one percent rate of interest compounding yearly, assuming 40 years until retirement, you'll have $150 by the time you stop working. That's a 50 percent gain. But, there are better ways of investing for retirement pay higher returns. If the same $100 is invested to achieve a relatively modest five percent yearly return, after 40 years that same amount will be worth $700. That's the power of compound interest.

One reason for the fact that Americans are bad at saving is that many don't necessarily know all the options available to them outside of traditional bank accounts.

First, there is the plain vanilla brokerage account. A brokerage account allows you to buy and sell securities like stocks and bonds. It gives you access to the "markets" that this column talks about. Unlike a savings account, brokerage accounts can lose money, but the potential return is also much higher. The annualized return of the S&P 500, for instance (an index that tracks the performance of the stock market) is roughly 10 percent since 1928. If that performance continued – a big if, but this is just for comparison's sake – that $100 after 40 years becomes $4,500.

Then there are traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs (Individual Retirement Accounts). You can save a combined $5,500 per year with these and the growth of that money is not taxed. The difference is that with a traditional IRA, you pay no income tax when you set aside money, but later you pay regular income tax on withdrawals. A Roth IRA is not taxed on when you start taking distributions in retirement, but you cannot defer income taxes on the money you put in. Essentially, you pay the income tax on the front end or the back end but you pay no tax on the growth. The benefits of tax deferral can be enormous. There are drawbacks, of course. For one, your savings in these accounts are locked up; there are restrictions on how and why you can take money out before the age of 59-and-a-half without paying penalties. However, sometimes that lock-up ensures that people don't raid their nest-egg prematurely.

Then there are employer sponsored plans like 401(k)s and 403(b)s. Both function similarly to traditional IRAs (i.e. you don't pay income tax on the money you put in), but you will pay it when you take it out, and there are restrictions on when and why you take money out lest you face a penalty. But, there are key distinctions. They have higher contribution limits (a combined $18,000/year, and up to $24,000 after 50) and they often include an employer match (sort of like your employer paying you to save money). The important thing to know is that every employer has different rules on how much you're allowed to put away each year and how much they'll match.

And this is all just a start. There is a myriad of other savings options like pensions, SEP IRAs, annuities; CDs, 457 plans, hiding cash in the trunk of your Lamborghini and et cetera ad nauseam.

Now take a deep breath. There is no need to stress over all of this. In fact, you should feel optimistic. We live in a time when there are more tools than ever to save money and track spending habits to make sure we can find money to set aside. Plus, Lil' Dicky rapped about saving money, so the concept is officially cool again. That's just a fact.

Plus, there are experts who dedicate their existence to helping people save and manage money for retirement. They not only understand the various accounts and savings plans, but they also personalize plans so you know exactly what your savings goals should be. Certified Financial Planners (CFPs) are trained and have experience creating holistic financial plans. Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs) are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and have a "fiduciary duty," which means they must always act in their clients' best interest. Of course, all the certifications and registrations in the world don't make someone competent, so one must always be careful, but the point is that you do not have to forge ahead without guidance.

When you think about saving, imagine Shia LeBeouf shouting, "JUST DO IT!" If you remember anything from this article, remember these two things: (1) any amount of saving is better than no saving, and (2) saving early in life is good. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to go lose $20 in a march madness bracket.

Disclosure: I am not an expert. This article is for educational purposes only. It does not constitute financial or investment advice and should not be construed as such.

"[Lube] Can Make That Pussy Rain, Often"

"I was tryna slide into his DMs but it didn't work out."

"What happened, man?"

"No lube."

Some people are lucky enough to have bodies that produce natural lubricant that eases penetration. But if you're tryna do it in the butt or natural lubricant isn't cutting it, you need lube.

As Kristin Lawson, owner of Middlebury's resident sex shop Curve Appeal, told the *Campus* in 2014, "Wetter is better, especially in all sorts of, um, orifices."

First, the basics: there are a lot of different kinds of lube out there, but not all of them will work for you. Lubes can be oil-based, water-based or silicone-based and each have their pros and cons.

Oil-based lube is NOT for use with condoms. The oils can break down the latex and create holes for sexual transmitted infections and sperm to sneak through. This includes coconut oil or oily hand creams and moisturizers. (Another note on lube hacks — make sure whatever you use is safe for internal application! Many hand creams are not safe to put inside yourself; just read the label carefully.)

Water-based lube is condom safe and easy to clean up. It's probably the most popular type of lube around. Water-based lubes can be used for vaginal, anal or oral sex.

Silicone-based lubes are good for anal sex (inserting fingers, toys, dicks or whatever it is that gets you going) and are condom-safe, too. It has one big advantage over water-based lubes, though: these lubes won't wash off in the shower. Never quite figured out shower sex? A squirt of lube just might be the key you were missing.

There's also lube for oral, and it comes in all sorts of delish flavors. Curve Appeal stocks lube in Candy Apple, Mocha Lava and Salted Caramel flavors. (I've heard you can even taste test them!?) No salted caramel ice cream left in Proc? These lubes are so sweet you could just drizzle a little on your vanilla cone and be good to go.

Still other lubes are designed to create warming or tingling sensations. As with almost all sex things, if you're wondering about something, it probably exists. So stock up on a lube of your choosing over spring break and get wet the next time you get down.

Not sure how to bring up using lube to a partner? I highly recommend phrasing it as something that can make sex feel even better for both of you (because it's true and because centering them in the conversation can make your partner more open to your awesome suggestions).

So next time you're about to bang, hit pause and grab the lube. You and your partner's, um, orifices will thank you for giving them some TLC and moisturizing before penetration. As The Weeknd notes in "Often," his latest hit, "[Lube] can make that pussy rain, often."

Xoxo, Sex Panther

The Magic of a Moment: Cloud Tectonics

By Lior Selve
Contributing Writer

With moments both light and heavy and serious or comedic, "Cloud Tectonics" is at all moments riveting. In the space of an hour and a half on an ordinary Saturday, I was transported into a room where the physics of time bent and the contours of love became clearer. The play, which was put on from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 16, through Saturday, March 18, was directed by Mary Baillie '18, and brought to life by three student actors: Steven Medina '17, Joey Hernandez '19 and Manny Duran '19.

Interestingly enough, the details of the play itself, written by José Rivera in 1997, seem to play second fiddle to the emotions and themes subtly explored in the subtext. It begins on a thunderous night in Los Angeles on the corner of Virgil and Santa Monica with a woman and a man. The woman is Celestina del Sol (Hernandez) and the man, Anibal de la Luna (Medina). Celestina is pregnant and explains that she has nowhere to be and no one to go to. Anibal, being the kind taxi driver that he is, has no choice but to take her into his home, and ultimately into his heart.

What follows next is the discovery that Celestina is no ordinary woman. Played excellently by first time actress Hernandez, Celestina is bubbly, chaotic, emotional and absolutely extraordinary. The crux of her existence in the play is that she is not tied down to time. She does not understand the difference between a minute and a year, and seems to live in an infinite time loop where she life goes around on repeat. Most importantly, when she enters Anibal's home, she confers this ability onto him too, and the big clock projected on stage noticeably stops ticking for the duration of the play.

It is on this timeless stage that a magical evening reverberates through the stage. In fact, the entire plot of the play is confined to a single evening between Anibal and Celestina, with two intrusions by Anibal's brother Nelson (Duran). With the freedom of theatre and the power of the magical realist aspects of the play, Medina was able to explore the nuances of Anibal to astonishing depth.

In conversation with Celestina, whom he falls in love with mere minutes after she walks into his life, Anibal explores the hidden darker corners of his heart. He divulges how misogynistic and racist he believes his Latina girlfriend's work environment is, how his cousin raped him and how he later fell in love with this same cousin.

Though it is assumed that Celestina's presence is the impetus for Anibal's self-reflection, she actually spends much of her time being childish and sexual.

"Celestina is a ... manic pixie dream-girl," Hernandez said. "She's a girl that goes into a man's life and changes his whole life ... but the story isn't really about her."

Around halfway through the play, Nelson, the third and final character, is introduced. He is Anibal's brother, on break for a night before going to Bosnia for a two-year stint in the Army. Nelson bursts onto the stage as a comic relief, and Duran plays him hysterically.

However, in clear juxtaposition to Anibal, he is exceptionally misogynistic, and brings the thick scent of machismo with him into the play. Interestingly enough, he falls in love with Celestina even faster than Anibal, and rashly asks her to marry him when he comes back from war. Nelson then leaves the stage.

Two years later, changed by war, Nelson comes back into Anibal's life. But, for Anibal and Celestina – and the audience – only thirty minutes have actually passed.

It is here where the value of Nelson as a character shines through. With a veritable explosion of emotion, Nelson sees the still pregnant Celestina and runs towards her with a manic stare and glistening eyes, assuming she has taken Anibal as a new lover.

Nelson then enters into a powerful monologue about the horrors he experienced in war, the trauma that sticks to his bones even when he sleeps and the poignant statement that there is just so much he needs to forget.

Duran explained that "a lot of the things Nelson said were triggered by Trauma," and this fact helps bring Nelson's emotions and depth to life in an incredibly short period of time.

Though the most obvious and pronounced theme of the play is that of love – love between Anibal and Celestina, Nelson and Celestina, Anibal and his cousin – Medina pointed out, and I agree, that the subtler themes the play explores are what give it life.

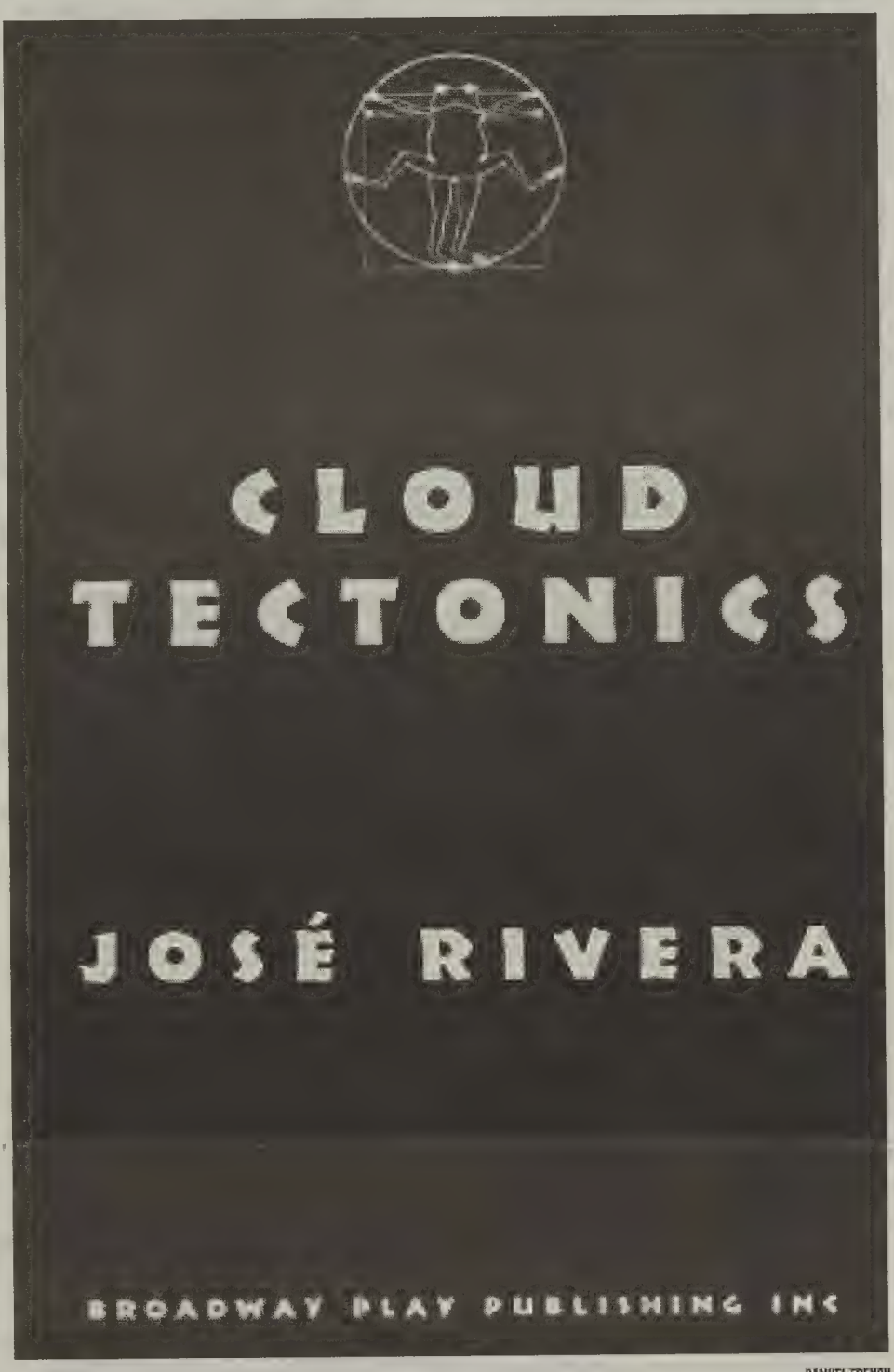
If we consider Celestina to be that magical core inside each and everyone of us – the composition of identities from each and every point of our lives – then Anibal's final words are poignant and universal: "What better way to respond to a miracle than to fall in love with it?"

According to all three actors, some of these themes were identity, machismo, misogyny, confusion, trauma and, of course, time.

Though time, like love, was a more evident theme, Duran pointed out that its role in the play may have been to highlight the subtler theme of chaos and confusion in life and love. He pointed out that the magical realist use of time "provided another way of expressing love," because though "almost all art, and music, is about love, it cannot be fully explained."

Hernandez offered another interpretation of time's importance to the play, explaining that "the play could also be a social commentary about how consumed with our lives we are, and that we don't even realize time is passing by."

Moreover, it could be argued that all the other themes are ultimately connected to love in some way or another, including trauma/PTSD and its ability to alter one's self love and the implications of a lack of empathy in machismo and misogyny. Even identity can have tangible effects on the love that individuals feel in a community.



"Cloud Tectonics," written by José Rivera, employs magical realism.

When asked about these themes, Medina highlighted an example of the power of identity to affect feelings of love.

"[Like Anibal] a lot of Hispanics feel really shitty when they're asked why they can't speak Spanish," Medina said.

Thus, their identities, and their places within them, open up doors for criticism and deprecation.

Medina also highlighted the fact "there was only one other Hispanic student when I entered the department" and wants "more shows that embrace certain identities, maybe criticize certain identities from particular communities."

Both Medina and Duran highlighted the importance for any community to not only be willing to share parts of their identities with others, but also to be brave enough to be honest about them.

"It would be bad not to show Nelson's negative aspects like misogyny, homophobia, machismo because it exists," Medina said, regarding the criticism of Puerto Rican men. "Maybe there are problems in that community like there are problems in every community."

"[Portraying Nelson's negative aspects] served to highlight or portray something that exists," added Duran, "a representation of something that's real."

In the whirlwind that was Cloud Tectonics, the final words cut through with a message about love, understanding and identity. Anibal considers Celestine to be a miracle, and states that "trying to understand such a life, and why love matters to it, why a god would need to be loved too, was like trying to understand the anatomy of the wind or the architecture of silence."

If we consider Celestine to be that magical core inside each and everyone of us – the composition of identities from each and every point of our lives – then Anibal's final words are poignant and universal: "What better way to respond to a miracle than to fall in love with it?"

If we are each, in our own rights, miraculous, we have a world of beautiful, mysterious souls to meet, understand and fall in love with.

DON'T MISS THIS

Roman Faces at the Middlebury College Museum of Art

Professor Pieter Broucke, associate curator of ancient art, gives a gallery talk in conjunction with the Museum's American Faces exhibition. This talk will focus on works of art in the Museum's permanent collection of Roman art.

3/24, FRIDAY, 12:15 P.M., MUSEUM OF ART

Amanda Lucia Lecture

Dr. Lucia analyzes the intersections between indigenous and Asian religions in contemporary American yoga practices. Casting metaphysical spirituality as the turn toward the premodern, she reveals the influence of the Christian category of the 'heathen' and the continued American preoccupation with the 'exotic.'

4/6, THURSDAY, THE ORCHARD-HILLCREST 103

Paul Lewis, Piano

In addition to being beloved by our local audience, pianist Paul Lewis is internationally regarded as one of the leading musicians of his generation. Lewis makes his return to Middlebury with a mixed repertoire program including a Bach partita, Beethoven's fourth piano sonata, three Chopin waltzes and Weber's Sonata no. 2.

4/7, FRIDAY, 8 P.M., ROBISON HALL, MCA

Professor Pens Critical Study of Rattigan

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

John Bertolini first discovered the work of Terence Rattigan as a young boy at the movies, where he got a taste of Rattigan's "great theatrical skill." It is his view that Rattigan is the preeminent British dramatist of the twentieth century, second only to George Bernard Shaw, who belongs as much to the nineteenth century as he does the twentieth.

A self-described devotee of Shaw, Bertolini published his first book on Shaw, "The Playwriting Self of Bernard Shaw," in 1991. At the College, Bertolini, who is the Ellis Professor of English and the Liberal Arts, has taught courses on drama for over three decades, some of which explore the works of Shaw and Rattigan and their relationship to one another.

His latest book, "The Case for Terence Rattigan, Playwright," is a study of Rattigan that seeks, as he writes in the book's preface, "to illustrate Peter O'Toole's assertion that Rattigan is the best playwright of the twentieth century."

The book is part of a series of scholarly works that seeks to deepen the academic study of Shaw through the exploration of his contemporaries.

"What appeals to me in Shaw is his heroic optimism. He is the embodiment of the comic spirit of life," Bertolini said. "But, I know there's another side to life. And Rattigan seemed to me among modern British playwrights to be the one whose representation of the tragic side of life appealed to me the most."

In his lifetime, Rattigan established himself as a kind of foil to Shaw, as a playwright of "character and situation," rather than one of "ideas." The contrasting approaches to drama make Rattigan and Shaw, in a way, complementary playwrights. The reader gets more out of one by reading the other.

"[Reading Shaw and Rattigan together] highlights what is characteristic of each one. It enables you to see better what is unique to Rattigan and what is unique to Shaw," he said. "[One can see] how much the 'play of ideas' really differs from the play of 'character and situation.'"

However, as Bertolini points out, there are certainly elements of "character and situation" in Shaw, and "ideas" in Rattigan. And that while they are complementary, there are also many ways in which they resemble one another.

The greatest similarity between Rattigan and Shaw is, simply, their great theatrical skill, the way in which they set up their effects and follow through with them. According to Bertolini, Rattigan maintained a high level of dramatic art from his first play to his last play, due in part to his natural flare for drama and his willingness to challenge the form.

One of the greatest examples of Rattigan's willingness to challenge the dramatic form comes in "The Winslow Boy," a courtroom drama that centers around the trial of a young boy but never actually has a scene in the courtroom.

"That is the sign of a real artist. The challenge of the form," Bertolini said. "That reminds me of Shakespeare's experimentation with dramatic form."

For Bertolini, the hallmarks of Rattigan's style are his use of understatement and implication.

"He is so good at constructing plays around those ideas. A good playwright has to know what not to have his characters say and when to have them not say it," he said. "It is drama achieved through something you expect the character to say, you're waiting for them to say it, but they don't say it. Or they say it when you least expect it, they hold off saying it. And that catches your attention. 'Why isn't she telling him that she loves him?' And then you see why she isn't, because it's too painful to confront the rejection."

What makes Rattigan a truly great playwright, says Bertolini, is the way in which he used understatement, implication, character and situation to deliver tragedies that illustrated his unique view of life: the sadness of it, the inevitability of defeat, how victory often feels like defeat. In the later years of his life, Rattigan abandoned comedy and focused solely on delivering this vision.

"I think he stopped writing comedies because he no longer believed in the comic sense of life that animated Shaw all of his life, for example. It became impossible for him to write comedies. He just no longer had that as part of his vision of life," Berolini said.

In the years that he has been teaching drama at the College, Bertolini says that he has found that Rattigan's plays and tragic vision tend to resonate particularly well with students.

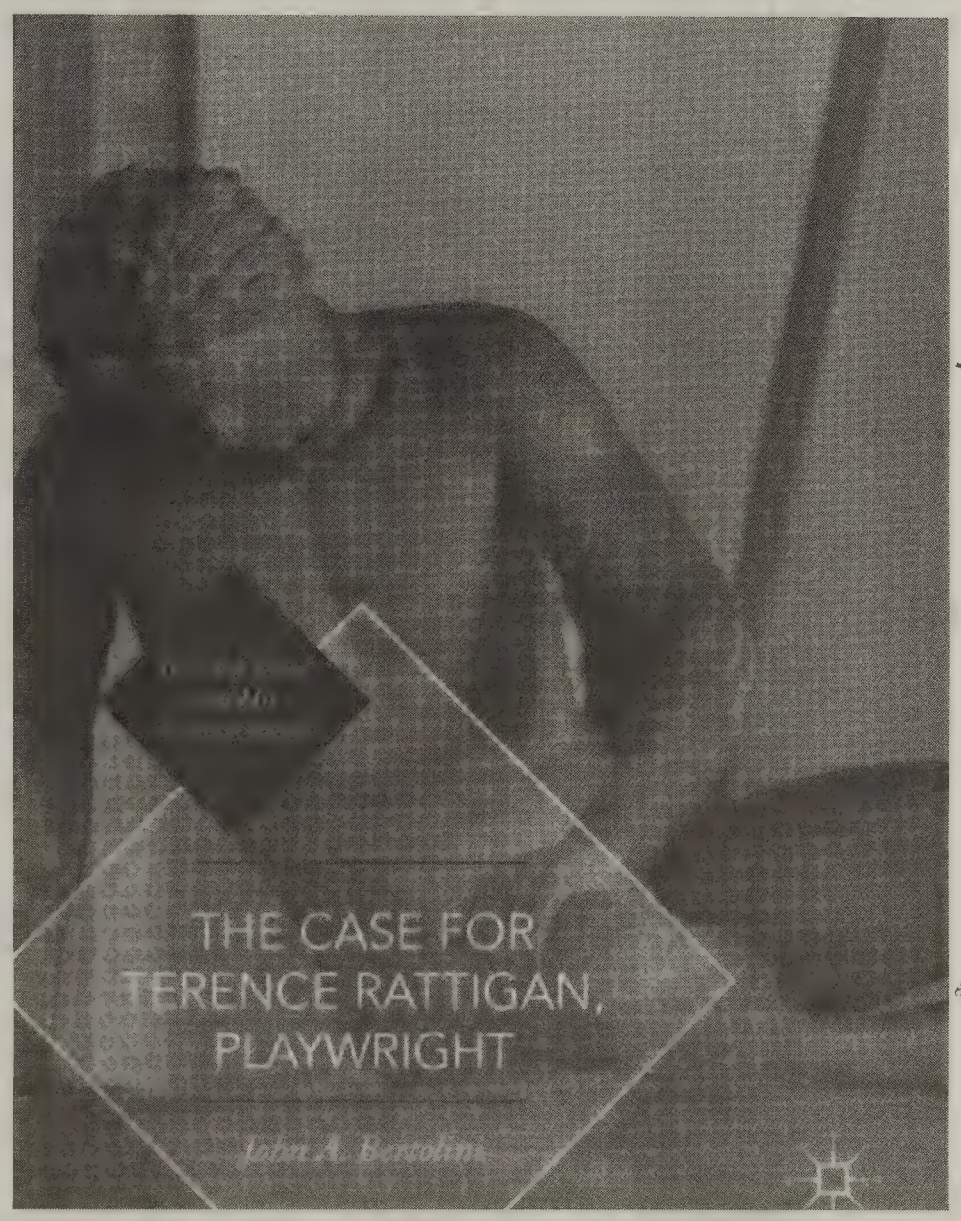
"[Students] are carried along by his skill. By his ability to write one scene after another that keep their interest and stir up questions in the audience's mind," he said. "I think the overall vision of defeated humanity is pretty compelling. How many people realize all their dreams? How many people are completely happy in life? Very few. And he writes about that."

He says that teaching and engaging with students at the College has greatly contributed to his study of Rattigan.

"I always write about what I teach, and I always teach what I write about. They have a symbiotic relationship for me. I get all sorts of stimulation from the ideas of students in class," Bertolini said. "Sometimes I'll even use them as springboards to finding, extending and embellishing other ideas. It's always a challenge to keep up with students in the classroom. They keep me on my toes. I love hearing their reactions to the plays, their ideas about them, where they see Rattigan doing this, that and the other thing and how that affects what he creates."

Bertolini says that he hopes his teaching and scholarship will help ensure that the legacy of Rattigan will live on.

"I like to think of the future," he said. "To think that when my students have children they will say, 'Oh, here's a great play that you should read.' or 'Here, I want you to look at a film of "The Winslow Boy."' I'm consoled by that, because I feel like then the work will never die."



PALGRAVE MACMILLAN

Prof. of English John Bertolini recently penned a critical study on Terence Rattigan.

BOOKING IT

THE LOVELY BONES

By Gabrielle Owens
Senior Columnist

The book opens with death.

Alice Sebold's "The Lovely Bones" is narrated by fourteen-year-old protagonist Susie Salmon, speaking from her own personal heaven after her neighbor has raped and murdered her. She recounts these events unapologetically and immediately, giving the reader a shock to their system from the first few sentences. There is no easing into the brutality of what has happened to her, only the terrible facts which she presents simply and straightforwardly. Her description is not euphemistic, but neither is it ever lurid or vulgar. You know from the beginning that you will have to grapple with intense subject matter, but there is no glorification of violence here. Sebold only includes the occasional gory detail – such as a dog finding Susie's elbow – where it adds to the realism of the novel; she does not revel in them.

Susie continues to watch the lives of her family and friends from heaven as they struggle to deal with the aftermath of her death. The police question her murderer, a man named Harvey, but they find no evidence to tie him to the crime, and eventually the investigation dies down without a resolution.

Harvey continues his life as if nothing has happened. Susie's father, however, cannot let it go, and begins his own inquiry while struggling with depression, desperation and a fractured home.

Susie retains some limited ability to interact with the real world from heaven, usually through some oblique means such as the ability to wilt flowers. This is ill-defined and seemingly only brought in when convenient to the plot, but it still allows for some interesting moments of mystery and interaction between her and her family and friends as she tries to point them towards Harvey as her killer.

She also, while in heaven, gains some insight in Harvey's past – what his childhood was like, and how he became a killer. This adds depth to his character, but it does not attempt to excuse him or insist that Susie ought to forgive him. She mourns the life she will never get to lead just as those still alive mourn her loss: without easy answers, and with fury and hatred for her murderer that she eventually learns to accept.

Sebold's portrayal of the impact of grief is exquisite: every character reacts in a unique way, and all of them feel arrestingly realistic. Some characters reach out and grow closer to one another, seeking comfort, while others push their loved ones away. Susie provides enough background from her life, as well as the occasional flashback to before her murder, for the reader to fully understand what these people used to be like and thus how they changed.

There is no beating around the bush that her death leaves a terrible and long-lasting impact on her family, and that it breaks them apart in ways that are devastating. Yet, while this novel does not shy away from the grim reality of what humans can do to one another, it also never forgets that people can be good and kind and incredible.

Even though grief is the emotional center of the novel, it is by no means all darkness and depression. "The Lovely Bones" is about finding your way through grief. There is still light and life and humor and hope for all these characters, even in their darkest moments — otherwise it would probably be an unbearably bleak read. It is a story about moving on, whether that means accepting a daughter's death or, in Susie's case, literally moving to a different part of heaven as she grows to accept the world as it exists without her.

Throughout the novel, Sebold strikes a balance between what is entertaining, what is upsetting, and what is beautifully touching. Her prose can be cleverly artistic and even playful, contrasted with blunt statements of fact. Susie's narration sounds believably like the voice of a fourteen-year-old, which lets the reader truly see the world through her eyes and understand it from her perspective.

The book begins with death, as simply and as brutally as it can. That death is present for the rest of these characters' lives, influencing their futures like a ripple effect. It is a study of how one person's absence fundamentally alters the lives of those around them, in a way that is both terrible and beautiful. Find it at the library at go/bookingit.

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: FACULTY DANCE CONCERT

By Qian Li (Audrey)
Contributing Columnist

Think. Move. Discover.

In the world of dance, there are no limits. Art lies in the movements of restless challenging and continuous experimenting. This is what the Faculty Dance Concert, a showcase of new work and interdisciplinary collaborations, is about. The event will take place on April 6 at 8 p.m. in the Dance Theatre of the Mahaney Center for the Arts. It is a one-night-only, must-see event.

The Faculty Dance Concert will spotlight samples of faculty choreography, featuring works by Gabriel Forestieri, Scotty Hardwig, Paloma McGregor, Maree ReMalia and Lida Winfield. The concert offers a wide range of aesthetics and artistic voices, representing the breadth and depth of the College's resident dance scholars and creators.

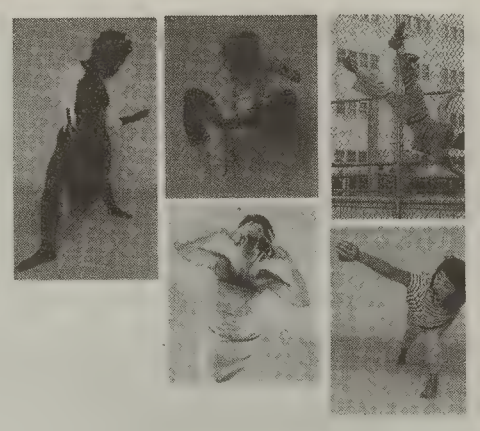
As a dancer, choreographer and digital media artist originally from the Appalachian Mountains of southwest Virginia, Visiting Assistant Professor Scotty Hardwig specializes in motion capture software and computer programming for live performance. He works heavily with dance videography/photography, projection design, Kinect motion capture and more to create rich environments of visuals and sound influenced by the movements of the performing body.

This year, Hardwig will present a new solo work hybridizing digital technology and live performance, integrating live motion capture, projection and sound designs influenced by the movement in the work. Together with the premiere of a new screendance, unicorn visions, the two works present an expressionist landscape of static echoes, avatareal illusion and spiritual resistance within a fantasy space.

"Splinter", a solo choreographed and performed by artist in residence Gabriel Forestieri, is a dance about memories, time and the fragments that remain. Forestieri is a choreographer and director of projectLIMB, and is intent on connecting communities with their landscape, resources and each other. He has taught dance both at home and abroad, and has had the pleasure of working with prestigious choreographers including Davis Freeman, Daria Fain and Punchdrunk. He was also a founding company member in 2011 of the NYC mounting of the Off-Broadway sensation, Sleep No More.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Interdisciplinary Choreographer Maree ReMalia has been working collaboratively with an amazing, motley crew in the creation of I Never Know When Things are Ending. Viewers will glimpse the eclectic expressions that emerged from the particulars of this group, which showcases Middlebury students and faculty David Allen, Chelsea Colby, Huirong Jia, Krista Miranda, Lida Winfield and local dancer and bodyworker Liesje Smith.

Lida Winfield, Visiting Lecturer in Dance, collaborates with ReMalia to create IMAGINARY, which investigates the impact of the imagination, the interplay between social and cultural constructs and the potential for the imagination to impact or dictate our potential and reality. The work is under development for an evening-length premiere in 2018. The Middlebury College Performing Arts Series is among the commissioners.



ALAN KIMARA AND DIXON COREY MELTON

Clockwise from top left: Christal Brown, Scotty Hardwig, Lida Winfield, Gabriel Forestieri and Maree ReMalia.

Tickets to the event are $6 for Middlebury College students. They are available at go/boxoffice or xMIDD.

Students Delight in "Songs and Arias" Concert

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

The "Songs and Arias" Concert, presented by the Music Department on Friday, March 17, featured performances from eight student singers accompanied by Cynthia Huard and Annemieke McLane on piano. The program consisted of songs from many traditions, including works by Handel, Debussy and Mozart. The performances covered an astonishingly wide range of voice timbres and styles in the hour-long concert.

Juliet Walsh '19, a soprano, sang first with the song "Giusto amor" by Louis Reichardt and the aria "Intorno all' idol mio" from Antonio Cesti's Orontea. Her voice, bright and confident, filled the concert hall beautifully and promised great things for the rest of the concert.

It is difficult to imagine the skill it takes for these singers to project their voices while maintaining the tempo required of the songs. Since the audience did not know the meaning of the words being sung, the singers had to and succeeded in carrying the emotional weight of their songs through their voices.

Next up was Samantha Allman '17, who sang two songs, "Come raggio di sol" by Antonio Caldara and "Il mio bel foco" by Benedetto Marcello. These, too, benefitted from the budding luminosity and graceful charm of a naturally gifted performer. The extent to which these songs moved the audience met or exceeded those sung previously.

The third singer, Miranda Seixas '20, sang "Un moto di gioja" by Mozart and "Ah, mai non cessate" by Stefano Donaudy, and one aria, "Laurie's Song" from Aaron Copland's The Tender Land. Much like the previous singer, Seixas did an excellent job of sharing these pieces, and it was immediately obvious that the hard work of preparing them had paid off. Especially interesting was the aria, the only one on the program to be sung in English. Listening to a piece in the only language many in the audience understand felt much different and helped me, at least, appreciate the skill it takes to sing even more.

Michael Koutelos '20, a baritone, performed two songs in the concert, "O Del Mio Amato Ben" by Stefano Donaudy and "La Serenata" by Paolo Tosti. It was at this point that I realized the broad range of styles which would be on display, since the first few songs were from the 17th and 18th centuries, but these two songs were composed relatively recently.

The performers also felt the concert was a success.

"I loved how the concert went!" Koutelos said. "Everyone sounded beautiful. Overall, I think it went very well for everyone involved. Shout outs to Jamie Lumley and Mike Nunziante for coming through!"

Fiona Sullivan '19 sang next, with the aria "Ah, mio cò" from George Frideric Handel's Alcina and a song called "La Iontananza" by Gaetano Donizetti. These two pieces, especially the aria, kept up the lively spirit of the first half of the concert and were performed exceedingly well.

Eleanor Mayerfield '19 performed five songs, the most of the evening, in a unique and rewarding way. First, she performed "Mandoline" and "Green", both set to music by Gabriel Faure. She then performed those two songs again, using the same words, but with music by Claude Debussy in addition to his other song "Beau Soir." It was very interesting to see how the composers approached the same text in such different ways. Faure, the older composer, used many expressive but relatively conservative composition techniques, while Debussy almost seemed to compose a scene from the text, including content from the poem in his music.

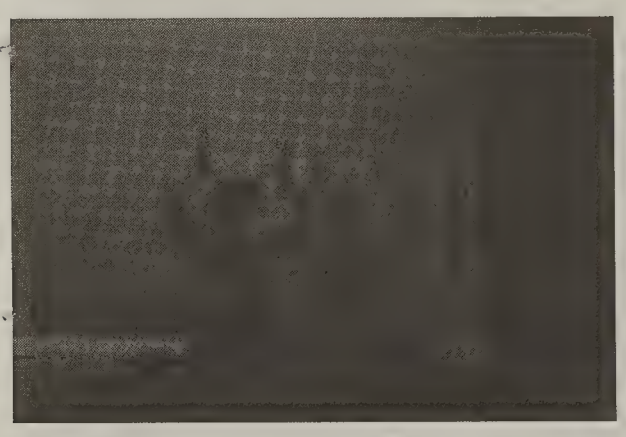
Mandy Kimm '17 then performed a song called "Ombra mai fu" by Handel and the aria "Che Faro senza Euridice" from Christoph Willlibald Gluck's opera Orfeo ed Euridice. The aria especially had a very serious dramatic air to it. It was especially apparent that this aria was written within the context of a grand drama and made me want to see more.

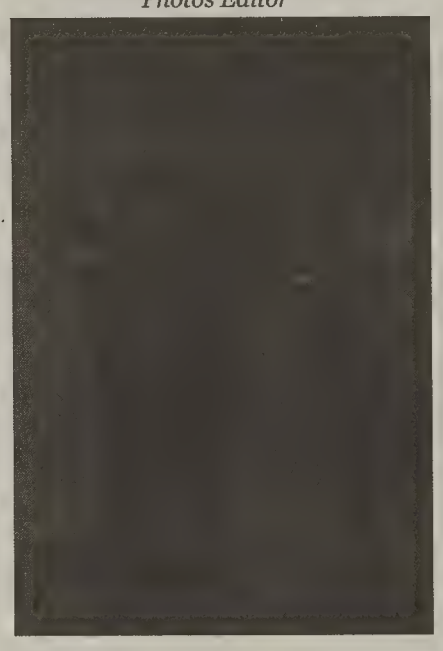
Lastly, Kahari Blue '19 sang two songs, "Me voglio fa na casa" by Donizatti and "When the Air Sings of Summer" by Gian Carlo Menotti. Both songs played well, and it was very interesting to listen to the middle range, as most of the other singers had either been sopranos, mezzo-sopranos, or baritones.

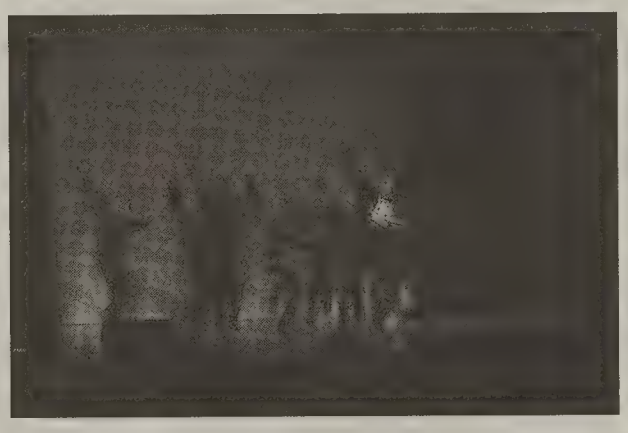
"For anyone who enjoyed this concert," Koutelos said, "the music department puts on another show in the later spring called 'Scenes and Songs' or 'Songs and Scenes,' whichever one it actually is. That concert will be more Broadway-oriented. [I]t's sure to be really good."

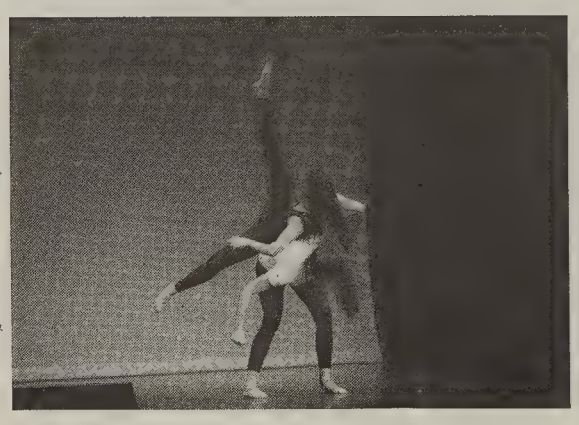
Evolution Dance Performance: Photo Story

By Michael O'Hara
Photos Editor

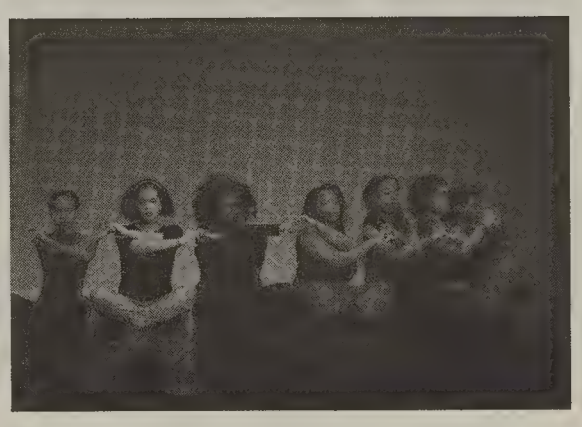








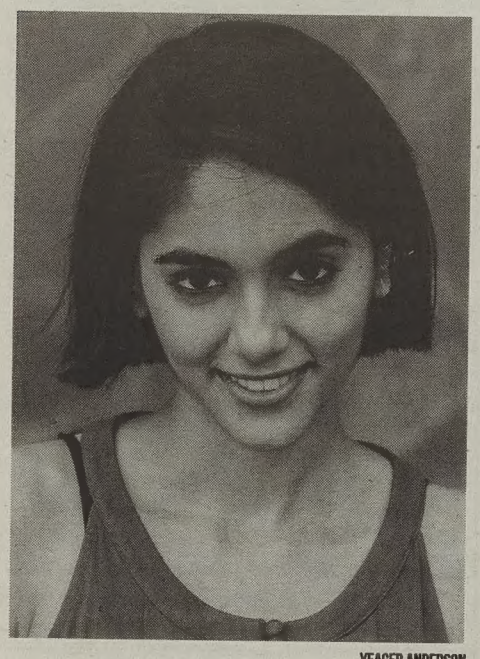
Evolution performed "Take It Back Showcase" in Wilson Hall on March 17. The playbill read, "*We've all had moments of self doubt, moments of powerlessness. People may have told you you're too this or not enough that and sometimes we allow that to steal our joy. But no more! We are taking what is rightfully ours: our identities, our culture, our pride, our essence and we gladly invite you to have a seat at our table as we slay your lives with dance.*"



MIDD MOUTH: FEATURING AKHILA KHANNA

By Matthew Blake
Senior Columnist

This week's MiddMouth poet is Akhila Khanna '17. Akhila is a theatre major from New Delhi, India. For as long as she can remember she has been dabbling in different artistic media from music to dance to theatre and now recently at Middlebury, poetry! This is the first time she is sharing her poems with people beyond her 'Structures Of Poetry Class' that she took during her sophomore fall!



YEAGER ANDERSON

Akhila Khanna '17 is this week's featured poet.

Here are some of Akhila's thoughts on her creative process and her relationship with poetry.

Matthew Blake (MB): How would you describe your creative process?

Akhila Khanna (AK): A lot of trying, failing, trying again and failing and along the way discovering something that clicks for me. There are a lot of similarities for me in writing a poem to choreographing a dance or directing a scene for a play. I have to put the words down on paper first, try out a few dance steps in front of the mirror or watch actors move about the space in different configurations to see what moments are working.

MB: How would you describe your relationship to poetry?

AK: As a kid I would love to write in the ABAB rhyme scheme. I would write about characters with names like "Matt" or "Mr. Brown" because I could easily rhyme them with "had a bat" or "had a frown". I thought I was a creative genius for coming up with that strategy. Now, as I have to move away from the comfort of rhymes, I am still discovering my relationship with poetry. I know that I am definitely inspired by cultures and traditions that I see around me as a travel. I think the visuals I see somehow seep into any art that I create.

A Night with the Sufi
By Akhila Khanna

I walk into the mosque
and see you squatted on the marble floor
as your sweaty palms slap your knees
to the beat of song in prayer.

I am only but a visitor
to the flashing neon lights
that dangle from the minarets
and quiver to your hymn.

Your skin hangs below your chin
and vibrates with your baritone
as you push the name of Allah
into the musty air

and into the hearts of thousands
who stumble across the streets
to catch an echo of your voice
resonating in white walls.

I sit amongst the beggar women
who rock sick babies
to the lullaby of the Sufi
in their gnarled, trembling hands.

Not a penny for medicine
they are here to heal
while I watch and listen
troubled by my own empty thoughts.

I close my eyes, see your breath
streaking bleak skies with bright yellow-
a trance dipped in the mystic spell
to paint our spirits with a shade of strength.

Middlebury Reacts to Space Tourism

By Asher Lantz
Contributing Writer

Humans are going back to the moon. On Monday, Feb. 27, the commercial space flight company SpaceX announced that they are sending two tourists around the moon late next year in a privately-crewed capsule. These tourists will be launched into space, where they will loop around the moon – but not land on it – and come back to Earth. The mission is estimated to take about a week.

It is still unknown who the tourists are and how much they are paying. They will be not the first space tourists; there have been seven space tourists before, each paying between 20 and 40 million dollars to the Russian government to send them up. However, none of these tourists ever went above Low Earth Orbit.

To gauge the perspective of students and faculty around the College, I interviewed Assistant Professor of Physics Eilat Glikman and had quick conversations with 12 Middlebury students about their thoughts on this event, as well as their feelings about space travel in general.

Glikman is an astrophysicist. Naturally, she is excited about this news. However, she is not excited that tourists can now pay to go into space. She hopes this event "won't just create one more thing that rich people can do".

"I think it's the kind of thing that makes the news, and I think that kind of thing making the news definitely wakes people's minds up and gets people excited," she said.

Glikman mentioned the 1969 moon landing, which she said is in a weird way, "so far in the past, it's almost like it didn't happen." People from our generation know that people have been on the moon, but have taken it for granted their whole lives. Tourists going to the moon in our lifetime could reawaken the excitement our grandparents felt when Neil Armstrong took those first extraterrestrial steps.

"I would hope that this sort of thing would push our nation to invest in more space exploration, from the NASA side," added Professor Glikman. "Not to take away from the entrepreneurial aspect, but I think, at the end of the day, if you really want to break barriers, you need the kind of investment that isn't driven by profit."

She believes that governments need to take the risk and pave the way without monetary profit in mind. After that, commercial businesses can take over.

In her discussion, she drew a parallel to Lewis and Clark.

"After Lewis and Clark did their charting and mapping out of the West, you had migrations, you had people moving into those places..."

Glikman went on, however, to mention the current government's lack of funding for NASA.

"It's interesting to think of private industry saying [to the government], 'we're just not going to wait for you,'" she said. "So you have people like Elon Musk ... eccentric Billionaires who are willing to take risks and kind of allow for those losses."

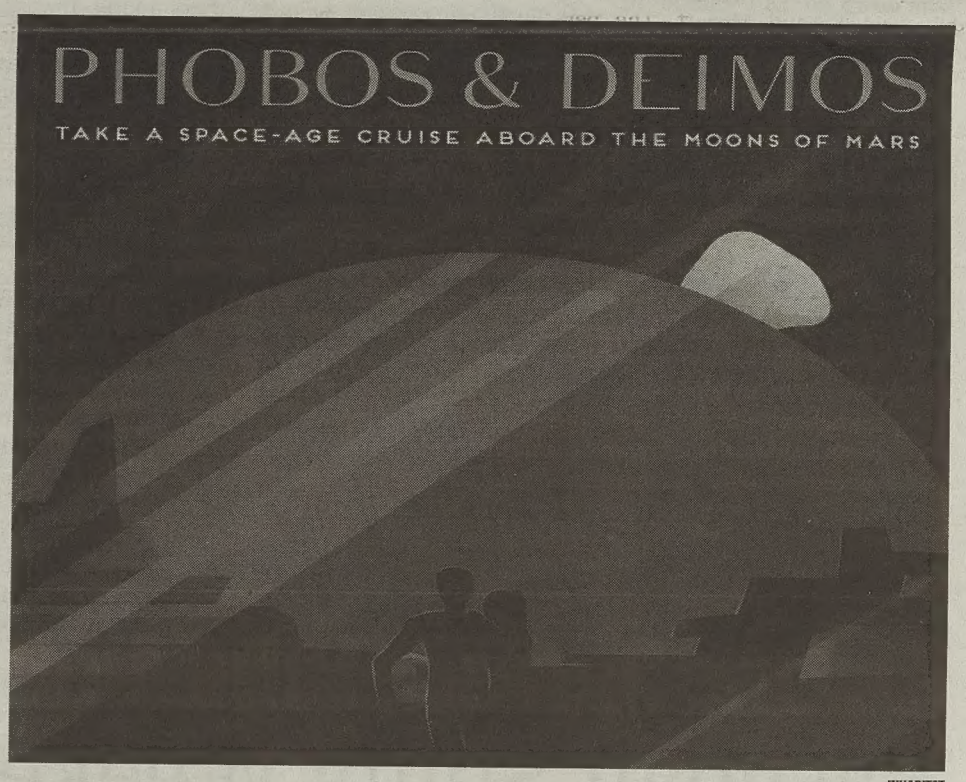
Glikman mentioned the story of Richard Garriott as an example of the potential benefits of space tourism. Garriott was a space tourist who performed some scientific studies while aboard the ISS. Because of him, NASA was able to determine the effects of space on LASIK, the corrective eye surgery.

Some people today are drawing parallels between space – specifically Mars – and the New World in the 1400's. When I asked Glikman whether or not she would agree with this, she seemed skeptical about the possibility of humans colonizing another planet.

"Mars is not a hospitable place," she said. "We are components of an ecosystem; it's not just that we need an atmosphere to breathe, we need food. Well, our food comes from plants that grow in the ground, and plants don't just grow ... our entire biological existence depends on other biological existences which depend on other ones, you can't just pluck one out and plop it somewhere else ... ecosystems don't just sprout out of nowhere"

While all these deterrents are valid, I have to mention that there are several theories for how Mars could successfully be made hospitable, though none of them are perfect.

Another part of space exploration that Glikman brought up was law. If people want to harvest an asteroid, "Who owns the asteroid?" Or, if people manage to colonize Mars, "Who owns Mars? Is that another country?" Glikman brought up these questions as interesting things to consider, stating openly that she "[doesn't] have answers to any of them."



INHABITAT

SpaceX's vintage-esque PR poster advertises the emergent 'space tourism' industry.

Finally, I asked Glikman whether she would fly around the moon. She responded with a resounding no. Her answer was a personal preference, however, and she does not discourage other people from travelling into space. As an astronomer, she has seen some of the best night skies viewable on Earth. She describes those experiences as "existentially overwhelming." She does not know how she would react if she saw the view from space. Moreover, she understands that the human body has evolved over billions of years to thrive on Earth. She would personally prefer to stay where humans are evolutionarily meant to be.

"I'll let Hubble take my pictures for me," she said.

I also talked to 12 somewhat random students around campus. Five of them had not heard that SpaceX was sending people to the moon. When I asked about whether they viewed this event as important to their lives, 10 answered yes, and two were more apathetic. All of the students were excited about the possibility of space travel. However, the two who were more apathetic stated that the money spent on going to the moon could be used for issues that humans are facing here on Earth. In rebuttal, one student mentioned that space travel pushes the advancement of technology, and thus is beneficial to current issues that Earth faces. There are scores of world changing technologies that were invented solely because of the world's space programs.

Finally, I asked every student whether or not they would go to the moon if they did not have to pay. Every student but one answered yes. That one person said they are claustrophobic and would dislike being in such a cramped space. The rest of the students I asked were very enthusiastic, most saying yes in an instant.

Men's Lacrosse Looks to Overcome Tough Week

By Colby Morris
Senior Writer

The luck of the Irish didn't help Middlebury lacrosse this past week as the Panthers dropped two close games. The team went on the road and dropped a close game to no. 5 St. Lawrence 11-10, and played Wesleyan in an important NESCAC matchup at home and fell 17-15.

In the first game last Monday, March 13, the Panthers kept no. 5 St. Lawrence in check in what was a back-and-forth affair, tied 3-3 at the end of the first quarter. From that point on, the teams traded leads and the game was still at a deadlock at 10-10 with 6:16 left in the game. But the last goal came at the 3:45 mark by the Saints. Leading the Panthers were AJ Kucinski '20 and Jake Schneider '17, both with two goals.

On Saturday, March 18, Middlebury played its second home game of the season and its first against a NESCAC opponent. Nevertheless the Panthers didn't come out with the result they expected.

While Middlebury was ranked no. 10 in the nation heading into the contest, their foe, Wesleyan, entered unranked. The Cardinals entered the matchup at 3-1 overall, however, compared to Midd's 2-2 mark.

As was the case a few days earlier against St. Lawrence, this one was tight early on before the game started to get away from the Panthers in the second half.

Schneider again came out shooting as he scored two first quarter goals, along with one from Kucinski and one from Joey Zelkowitz '17. Middlebury built off some momentum in the second quarter with Zelkowitz, John Simms '18, Parker Lawlor '18 and Danny Jacobs '20 all scoring successive goals, the last one coming on man up play after a Wesleyan penalty.

> ***"We need to improve our compete level and decision making to get another NESCAC win against Bowdoin."***
>
> CHRIS BRADBURY '19

After drawing the score to 8-4 with 10:49 left in the second quarter, Wesleyan responded with four goals of their own, evening the tallies. Kucinski stopped the bleeding with another score, but the Cardinals found the back of the net with two more of their own before the quarter was over, the last of which came with just two seconds left in the half.

Wesleyan built off of their late surge at the start of the third quarter, separating from the Panthers early on. After a quick goal from the visiting team and a response from Jack Gould '19, the score was 11-10 Cardinals. Henry Riehl '18 added another goal for Middlebury in the third quarter, but Wesleyan put in five more, pushing the score to 16-11. Seemingly out of reach, the Panthers pushed for a late comeback effort, scoring four out of the last five goals of the game, narrowing the gap to 17-15, but they were unable to catch the Cardinals.

"We needed to compete a bit better and [Wesleyan] came out and executed well on Saturday," said Chris Bradbury '19.

For the game, Schneider and Gould led the way with three goals each, while Riehl, Kucinski and Zelkowitz added two each. Simms, Lawlor and Jacobs all had one goal. Keeping with their pattern of splitting games in the net, captain Will Ernst '17 and first year Will Perry '20 each took a half in goal, with Ernst tallying five saves and Perry adding six. Jake Madnick '20 dominated the faceoffs all game, winning 18 of 23, while John Jackson '17 made his return from a Meniscus injury and went 5-for-10 in faceoffs that he took. Jackson's return could be a big boost for the Panthers, as Jackson is a formidable faceoffs taker and adds three years of experience and leadership to the field. Wesleyan was simply deadly accurate shooting on Saturday, scoring on over 50 percent of their shots, while the Panthers managed their 15 goals on 44 attempts.

"We need to improve our compete level and decision making to get another NESCAC win against Bowdoin next weekend," added Bradbury.

After a 17-10 win against Plattsburgh State in this week's mid-week matchup, the Panthers will look to bounce-back in conference play when they take on Bowdoin at Youngman Field on Saturday, March 27.

TOP-RANKED WOMEN'S LAX KEEPS ROLLING

By Jake Turtel
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, March 18, the top-ranked Middlebury women's lacrosse team travelled to Middletown, CT to take down no. 18 Wesleyan in their closest game of the season, managing to come away with a 10-6 victory.

It took a few minutes, but Mary O'Connell '17 scored the first goal of the game with 26:52 left in the first frame on an assist by Casey O'Neill '19. O'Connell proceeded to net two consecutive goals directly after, while Georgia Carroll '18 added another to push the early Panther lead to four. The Cardinals got on the board with a goal from Abby Manning, niece of two-time Super Bowl MVP and Patriots archenemy Eli Manning (kidding; there is no relation). Carroll scored her second goal of the game on an assist by O'Connell, who currently leads the NESCAC in assists with nine.

Wesleyan, however, was able to pull within one before the half. The Cardinals rattled off three goals in the last four minutes of play, with the last coming just five seconds before the intermission. Leading 5-4, the Panthers found themselves in a battle.

But after the break, O'Neill quickly went to work extending the lead, as she scored two unassisted goals in a one minute span to give the Panthers a three goal cushion. Next, O'Connell scored her fourth goal during a player-up opportunity; soon after, Bea Eppler '17 continued the Middlebury scoring streak with a goal of her own. Manning once again broke Wesleyan's drought, but her effort was quickly matched by a Sara DiCenso '19 goal. With the Panthers holding a five-goal lead, the game saw no scoring until the Cardinals scored a mostly meaningless goal with under three minutes to play.

Goalie Kate Furber '19 picked up her third win of the season, playing the entire game and stopping three shots. Middlebury cashed in on three of their four player-up opportunities and outshot Wesleyan 22-14. Evie Keating '18 also contributed five ground ball pickups and caused three turnovers. Although this game was below their average, the Panthers still lead the NESCAC in goals per game with 14.25.

While Middlebury is off to a good start in their championship defense, their journey will not be easy. Jessie Yorke '17 believes that the Panthers are "young, but I've been really impressed with our mental toughness as a group. This season we're going to play a lot of teams that will test our grit and just go as hard as they can with an underdog attitude - we definitely saw that with Wesleyan."

To be at the top is nice; staying there for the entire season will be a different question entirely.

BY THE NUMB3RS

21 *Total points (assists plus goals) by Mary O'Connell '17*

The # of brackets out of 18 million, that correctly predicted the Sweet 16. Wow! **18**

39 *Combined Matches won by the men and women's Tennis Team over the weekend.*

Career home runs by Sam Graf '19. **2**

Baseball Splits Weekend Opener

Continued from page 20

Panthers in the bottom half of the inning with two runs of their own, New England College then scored in the bottom of the second inning to go up 3 – 2. There wasn't any scoring until the seventh inning; Middlebury came close with two hits during the top of the sixth inning, but wasn't able to capitalize.

In the top of the seventh, Middlebury's scoring began when Ryan Rizzo '17 singled off of a bunt. A couple of batters later Graf drew a walk, advancing Rizzo to second. Lock came up to the plate and was able to give the Panthers the lead with a double that scored both Rizzo and Graf, allowing Middlebury to go up 4 – 3.

After holding New England College scoreless in the bottom of the seventh, Middlebury felt a bit of relief going into the final two innings of the game. Sadly, New England College was not only able to stop Middlebury from scoring in the top of the eighth inning, but they also scored three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning to put themselves up 6 - 4. With one final chance to at least tie the game in the top of the ninth, Middlebury wasn't able of pull off the comeback.

Even though this game ended with a loss, quite a few players did well. Lock may have had the best game for Middlebury with one run, three hits (two of which were doubles), and two runs batted in. Graf also did well with two runs, one hit, one run batted in and of course his one home run. Even though he ended up getting a loss on his record, relief pitcher Robert Erickson '18 did fairly well too.

> ***Of course, any coverage of the game would be incomplete without mention of Morris who held New England College scoreless, pitching all seven innings and holding the opposition to only seven hits.***

He played 4.1 innings and only allowed one hit that resulted in two runs.

All in all, this was a good start for the baseball team. They were able to get a decisive win and they had a very close loss. Since this was the beginning of their season, one could have expected that they might be feeling things out; the loss shouldn't be any cause for concern moving forward.

Up next, the Panthers will play a series of games over their spring break in Tucson, Arizona against a number of teams, culminating in their first NESCAC conference series against Williams at the end of the week.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING TEAM
SEB'S SUGGESTIONS

1 WOMEN'S LAX
Our ladies continue their 4 game win streak and are STILL ranked #1.

2 MEN'S TENNIS
Stunning performance over the weekend and #4, the tennis squad continues to dominate.

3 WOMEN'S TENNIS
Winning 17 of their last 18 matches and ranked #7, the women's squad heads out to Cali for sunshine and more W's.

4 BASEBALL
The boys of spring (or winter), finish the weekend 1-1 with a shut out by Colby Morris '19. #roadtozona.

5 MEN'S LAX
Dropped 2 in a row. Tough, but they will bounce back.

6 SWIMMING AND DIVING
Sent 9 swimmers to compete in the NCAA Championships and we did fairly well. Good job, guys and gals!

7 SPRING BREAK
Wherever you are, take a deep breath and soak in a week full of no homework.

8 THE MONTH OF MARCH
Busted brackets and classic madness..

Swimming Season Wraps at Nationals

By Emily Bustard
Sports Editor

Middlebury sent nine swimmers to the CISD Natatorium in Shenandoah, TX, last week, to compete in the 2017 NCAA Division III Swimming & Diving Championships. The Panthers raced a total of 16 times over the course of the four-day meet, which began on Wednesday, March 15, and continued through Saturday, March 18.

The Middlebury women's team advanced to 18th in the national rankings thanks to Morgan Burke '17, Nora O'Leary '17, Isabel Wyer '18, Stephanie Andrews '18, Kristin Karpowicz '19, Maya Gomez '20, Celia Ripple '20 and Frances VanderMeer '20, who accumulated 60 overall points. Meanwhile, Mike McGean '17 tied the Middlebury men for 43rd out of 51 in the nation with his three individual performances.

"We really enjoyed every second of the trip and that showed in their performances," Head Coach Bob Rueppel said. "It was truly a team effort. All nine swimmers deeply cared about each other and created such an amazing group."

"It was incredible to have so many talented swimmers in one room, and so humbling to see one of the fastest meets in the country," women's tri-captain O'Leary echoed. "I also loved getting to watch my teammates compete and do so well at such a high level."

Wyer and McGean were the first Panthers to leave the blocks in the 500 freestyle prelims on Wednesday, March 15. McGean earned himself 29th in the event (4:36.37), and Wyer's split of 4:58.89 put her in 19th — just three spots away from the chance to vie for a top-16, All-American Honorable Mention in the consolation final.

Gomez then completed Middlebury's last individual event of the day with her 24.37-second sprint in the 50 free that morning (54th), and the relay team of VanderMeer, Ripple, Gomez and Burke stopped the clock in 1:45.31 in 200 medley relay prelims, earning the Panthers 17th place.

Day two got off to a fast start in the 200 free relay when the 12th-seeded quartet of Burke, Gomez, Wyer and VanderMeer improved on a school record set at NESCAC Championships last month. Their record-breaking time of 1:34.53 registered as the 12th best of the morning, while the team's mark of 1:34.87 in the consolation final was good for 15th and All-American Honorable Mention.

Wyer, the 2017 NESCAC Champion and school record holder in the 200 free, then placed 23rd in the event (1:51.81). McGean followed with a 46th place finish in the men's 200 freestyle (1:43.39).

"[In the 400 medley relay prelims] I had Celia Ripple on breaststroke, but made a change for finals and used Maya Gomez in breaststroke," Coach Rueppel clarified about the next event's lineup.

Wyer took the backstroke leg in both heats of that relay, along with VanderMeer on butterfly and Burke on free. After going a 3:49.93 in the prelims, the team broke Middlebury's record by 1.42 seconds with a 3:46.43 in the consolation final — enough to secure a ninth place All-American Honorable Mention once the winner of the heat was disqualified.

Gomez, O'Leary and Ripple kicked off the third day of competition individually in the 100 breast prelims. Ripple placed 33rd (1:05.52), O'Leary went a lifetime best for 29th (1:04.77) and Gomez's 1:03.57 gave her a lane in the consolation finals that night. Though she was seeded 15th in the event, Gomez held onto a 12th place All-American Honorable Mention in the consolation finals (1:03.71).

> ***"It was truly a team effort. All nine swimmers deeply cared about each other and created an amazing group."***
>
> HEAD COACH BOB RUEPPEL

Burke, Karpowicz, Andrews and Wyer were also seeded 15th in the 800 free relay, and ended the night with another Honorable Mention All-American in 13th place (7:32.45).

The next morning, Burke swam to 21st in the 100 free (51.48).

"Even though many of our teammates were back in Middlebury, we relied on them for support and encouragement throughout the week," Burke, another of the women's tri-captains explained as a reason for her success.

Soon after, 17th-seeded O'Leary lowered her own school school record with the 12th-fastest time in the prelims of the 200 breast (2:19.03).

"My personal goal was to qualify for consolation finals in the 200 breaststroke [so I could] swim again on Saturday night and I did," O'Leary said. "My second swim was a little slower than the morning, but it was still a great experience to compete in the finals."

O'Leary officially earned 14th and All-American Honorable Mention accolades with a time of 2:19.90 in the consolation final.

Burke, VanderMeer, Wyer and Andrews wrapped up the women's competition in the 400 free relay with yet another new school record in the event's morning preliminaries (3:26.42). Their eighth place finish in the finals that night put them on the podium with All American honors (3:26.90).

"Our team's 400 freestyle relay exceeded our expectations," O'Leary said. "That race was a joy to watch."

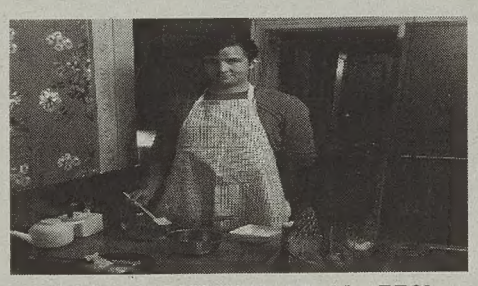
"The fact that all of our relays were outstanding proved the team was unified," Coach Reuppel reflected.

McGean, who finished second in the mile swim at NESCAC Championships, set Middlebury's fifth and final school record of the meet in the 1650 free. Lowering his previous record by 4.66 seconds, McGean's 15:41.61 put him in 11th and earned All-American Honorable Mention.

"Our coach, Bob Rueppel, is also responsible for a lot of our success," O'Leary explained. "He really appreciates all of his swimmers as people, and is respectful of our individual needs, even on such a large team."

"On behalf of all of us who competed, it was a privilege to attend NCAAs and represent Middlebury," Burke concluded. "We are proud of the team's ability to perform well at such a high pressure meet and feel unbelievably lucky that we had the chance to be a part of it."

EDITORS' PICKS

	Women's Lacrosse: +/- 2.5 scores for Middlebury's goals leader Mary O'Connell '17 against Bowdoin on Saturday, March 25?	**Tennis: Who drops a match first-- men's or women's tennis? Or neither until we meet again?**	**Baseball Wins on their spring break trip 6.5+/-?**	**March Madness! Who's playing in the Final Four?**
SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (24-12, .667)	UNDER She will probably score two.	MEN Hmmm, the men's will drop it first. Sorry dudes.	OVER. We are going to win at least 7.	UCLA and Gonzaga I love March. I'm going with UCLA and Gonzaga.
WILL CASE (83-50, .636)	OVER She's averaging three per game.	NEITHER Sebastian...the women's team plays a tougher schedule.	UNDER But it'll be close. Any lower and I'd be taking the over. But we couldn't have all four of us making the same choice, right Sanch and Rob?	KU, PRESS VIRGINIA, BAYLOR AND CAROLINA. I picked KU again this year... last time that worked Calipari and D Rose were still at Memphis.
 **ROBERT ERICKSON (15-12, .556)**	OVER Feel bad for Bowdoin.	NEITHER Feel bad for anybody who's not a Panther.	OVER. Especially with the sweep of Williams.	WISCONSIN VS. KANSAS... Feel bad for non-Great Plains teams.
EMILY BUSTARD (93-97, .489)	UNDER I'm also guessing that she'll score two.	WOMEN Like Will said, they have a harder schedule.	UNDER Gotta go with the gut on this one. Sorry guys. (esp. Rob since you're already feeling so bad...)	NONE I'll just trust the numbers on this one, I guess.

SWIM, SWAM, SWUM

SWIMMING SENDS NINE TO NCAAS

SEE COVERAGE PG 19

MIDDLEBURY SWIMMING AND DIVING FACEBOOK

Another Top-Notch Tennis Week

By Claire Messersmith
Staff Writer

Both the Middlebury men's and women's tennis teams cruised past Brandeis this past Saturday, March 18, indoors and at home. The men took home their 7-2 win in the morning, while the women finished up with an 8-1 blowout in the afternoon. The Panther men's team also travelled to Renssalaer at 9 a.m. on Sunday, March 19, followed by a 3 p.m. match at Skidmore.

The fourth-ranked men's team swept all three matches in doubles play. The no. 1 tandem of Lubo Cuba '19 and Will de Quant '18 sent the morning rolling with an 8-3 victory over their Brandeis opponents.

Allen Jackson '17 and Timo Van der Geest '18 put Middlebury up at 2-0 with a win of 8-1 at No. 3, while Kyle Shlanger '18 and Hamid Derbani '17 (No. 2 pair) sent the match into singles play, with a final 8-5 win.

Up at 3-0, the Panthers won four of six singles matches, Cuba first putting Middlebury ahead at 4-0 with 6-1, 6-3 victories at no. 1. De Quant (no. 2) clinched the match with his 6-3, 6-2 wins, and was followed by Shlanger's (no. 3) 6-2, 6-3 victories, putting the Panthers up 6-0.

But Brandeis's no. 4 and no. 5 seeds came out hot, and put up the only two points against Middlebury on Saturday morning. Each match needed three sets for the point, as Van der Geest (no. 4) fell at 3-6, 6-4, 11-9 and Jackson (No. 5) went down at 3-6, 6-2, 10-6. In the sixth slot, Alex Vanezis '20 finally sealed the scoring for Middlebury with a 6-2, 6-2 victory, making the final score 7-2, Middlebury.

"After this weekend, we're in a great position going into spring break," de Quant said.

"That said, I think this week we will be working a lot on controlling points from the first shot and improving our serve and return play. Our overall goal for the week will be to string together multiple disciplined and focus practices together so that we feel very ready for an intense spring break."

On the women's side, the seventh-ranked Panthers cleaned up with an 8-1 victory against no. 18 Brandeis in the afternoon.

In doubles play, the no. 2 flight of Kaysee Orozco '17 and Catherine Blayze '20 posted up an 8-1 win to get Middlebury on the board, 1-0.

At No. 1, Christina Puccinelli '19 and Katherine Hughes '20 notched Middlebury's second point, winning 8-4, while the pair of Molly Paradies '19 and Skylar Schossberger '20 were edged 8-5 at no. 3.

Though the no. 3 Middlebury tandem did not gain the point, Puccinelli commented on the team's improvement in doubles:

"Generally speaking, we have always been incredibly strong up and down the lineup in singles, so we have really been focusing on improving in doubles specifically," Puccinelli said. "We were all much more comfortable playing doubles than we have been in years past, and it was really great to see the progress."

Up 2-1 heading into singles, the Panthers answered with six more points on the board. Blayze (no. 4) eased past Leavitt 6-1, 6-1, and Puccinelli (no. 1) rounded the score to 4-1 with a 6-1, 6-2 victory.

Heather Boehm '20 (no. 2) clinched the match with 6-1, 6-3 scores. Paradies (no. 3), Hughes (no. 6) and Schossberger (no. 5) wrapped up the evening with 6-3, 6-1; 6-2, 6-0; and 6-0, 6-0 victories, respectively, over their Brandeis opponents.

Both teams will be switching up the climate next week, travelling west to California for five spring break matches. The first will be against the Academy of the Art on Sunday, March 26, at 1 p.m.

The men's team will be travelling south to Texas, for eight matches in the state. They will open up Saturday, March 25 at 4 p.m. against UT-Dallas.

Baseball Hits Diamond

By Jordan Howell
Senior Writer

The baseball team dug its way out of the snow to split a doubleheader last Saturday, Mar. 18 against New England College. The Panthers won the first half of the affair 5-0 behind a Colby Morris '19 shutout and lost the second game by a score of 6-4.

As the teams were playing a doubleheader, the first of the two was scheduled as a seven-inning game, with the Panthers as the home team at the neutral site in Northborough, Mass. In the first two innings, both teams went scoreless. The Panthers got their first runs in the bottom of the third inning, getting on the board with a run by Brooks Carroll '20 who scored due to an error by New England College's center fielder on Sam Graf '19's popup.

Justin Han '20, who had advanced to second on the last play, moved to third on a wild pitch; Jason Lock '17 then hit a sacrifice fly to right field, producing a second run for Middlebury to put them up 2-0.

The next three runs came in the bottom of the fourth inning. The Panthers began this inning by getting two outs, but didn't let that get to them at all. Johnny Read '17 singled on a bunt to get to first base. Phil Bernstein '19 then hit a double to move Read all the way around the bases and across home plate, making the score 3-0. After reaching second, Bernstein was able to get himself into scoring position by moving to third on a wild pitch. Soon after, Carroll was walked and was able to steal second. When Han got to the plate, he was able to blow the game open by hitting a single that allowed both Bernstein and Carroll to score. After this inning, both teams were held scoreless for the rest of the game.

Of course, any coverage of the game would be incomplete without mention of Morris who held New England College scoreless, pitching all seven innings and holding the opposition to only seven hits. He gave up one walk and struck out five in the win. Bernstein, Han and Carrol put together impressive games as well. Bernstein had two hits, one run and one run batted in. Han finished one hit, one run and two runs batted in. Although Carroll didn't have any hits, he was able to get on base twice in key situations and score a pair of big runs for the Panthers.

The second game, scheduled to be nine innings with the Panthers now as the away team, was a much closer affair. Both teams scored two runs each in the first inning. For Middlebury, the first run came from a home run from Graf, the first of the season for the team and the only one thus far. The next run came when a double to left field by Kevin Woodring '20 pushed Lock across the plate. After matching the

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INSIDE SPORTS

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MEN'S LAX TO BOUNCE BACK
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